



Oswestry

Keen sailor Arnold to embark on 500-mile trip

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Welshpool

A step back in time at railway event

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Property

Five pages of the latest homes on the market

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Jobs boost as water company expands

AN award-winning Oswestry company is set to branch out into the world of print and design and bring jobs to the town.

Natural Welsh Water, currently the Shropshire Business Of The Year award holders, will launch Shropshire Design and Print Services next week alongside their headquarters on Maes y Clawdd Industrial Estate.

The company has already created two jobs and will be looking to take on more staff in the coming months, offering all aspects of design and print including vehicle wraps, leaflets, shop signs, pop ups, exhibition stands and embroidered garments.

Mike Webb, Natural Welsh Water managing director, said: "We have created a brand new studio at the Maes y Clawdd Industrial estate where people can pop in and discuss their requirements with our design team. We have already taken on some highly qualified designers and are looking forward to expanding the team in the coming months.

"We have totally refurbished and re-designed the premises and will be having a launch open day very shortly. We have the latest technology, a great team, and will go that extra mile to make excellence affordable, so I can see a great future for Shropshire Design and Print."

The firm won the contract to supply the London Olympics with water coolers.

Town's KFC set to open

THE doors to Oswestry's new KFC restaurant open tomorrow (Friday), creating 45 jobs for the town.

It will open to customers for the first time at 10.30am at the site near Oswestry's gateway Mile End roundabout and has been welcomed by the town's new Mayor Chris Schofield.

He said: "New jobs in these difficult economic times must be welcomed. It is good to see the site being developed."

PROBE INTO PYLON ROUTE ABUSE CLAIMS

WALES'S First Minister Carwyn Jones has promised an investigation after complaints that residents on a proposed pylon route have been verbally abused by bailiffs delivering land access notices.

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies, Welsh Assembly Member Russell George and Llansantffraid Community Council have all voiced concerns after complaints of abuse from residents in the Vyrnwy Valley.

Mr George took his concerns to the Assembly this week and said: "The First Minister answered my question about the alleged abuse and replied that he would carry out an investigation."

The multi-million pound energy plans will see a pylon route carve a path through Montgomeryshire into Shropshire and bailiffs employed by agents on behalf of National Grid have been visiting properties to be affected.

One landowner and county councillor claimed he was sworn at after asking to see the ID cards of bailiffs enforcing access orders for land surveys to take place.

The actions have prompted Llansantffraid Community Council to liaise with police and send a letter of complaint to National Grid.

"It is very disturbing - shocking even," said MP Glyn Davies who has been receiving complaints from Llansantffraid residents.

"Bailiffs acting for National Grid had delivered a notice of forced access, and when challenged for ID, had sworn at my constituent."

Upsetting
"Now another constituent has told me of other similar incidents, including seriously upsetting his 86-year-old female neighbour. She has now been advised to co-operate for her own welfare by my constituent."

"This shameful behaviour on behalf of National Grid and within arrangements approved by the Government is scarcely believable."

Llansantffraid Community Council chairman Doug Williams said: "We have been shocked and disturbed by the reports which have reached us in the last few days of outrageous and disgraceful behaviour on the part of bailiffs acting for National Grid."

"It is completely unacceptable that members of our community should be subjected to obscenities, vile gestures and generally made to feel threatened."

A spokesperson for National Grid said: "We're aware of the complaint that has been made about our work and are investigating it. We understand people's concerns regarding our proposals, which is why we're working hard to request access to land and carry out surveys with minimum disruption."

"All of our staff know it's important to be sensitive to landowners' concerns and be professional and polite when undertaking their work."

Lottery luck for church



Reverend Robert Leach at Trelystan Church. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

A HISTORIC church near Welshpool which is the resting place of a Welsh king is to get Heritage Lottery money for urgent repairs.

St Mary's Church, at Trelystan, near Welshpool, has received a round one grant of £16,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the congregation is hoping it will lead to a further £82,000 grant.

The money will go towards a £161,000 project to stop the half-timbered building crumbling away. Priest-in-charge Reverend Robert Leach said it was the only way to make the church safe for continued use.

There has been a Christian church at Trelystan for more than 1,000 years. In 1010, Elystan Glodrydd, the founder of one of the five Royal Tribes of Wales and King of 'Rhwng Gwy a Hafren' - the area between the Wye and the Severn - was buried at the church although his exact resting place is not known.

Mr Leach said: "In the early 15th century the church was rebuilt and at that point was the only timber church in Wales."

"Inside the church, the roof timbers from that period can still be seen. Glimpses of the 15th century building can still be seen in the vestry but from the outside the church looks like many other black and white buildings in the Marches."

He said the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund was wonderful news.

However, in 1856, the church was restored and the existing timber building was encased between a new timber frame and brick structure externally and timber boarding internally.

"The church is still used regularly for Christian worship and is also a focal point for the small and scattered rural community of Trelystan, in which it is the only public building."

Resignation of school governors' chairman

THE chairman of governors at Welshpool's Maesdyre School has resigned it was confirmed this week.

Derek Simms, has overseen huge improvements at the school as it moved out of 'special measures' imposed by Estyn.

Vice chairman Brendan McWhinnie confirmed that Mr Simms had stepped down but refused to comment on the reasons and Mr Simms was unavailable.

Mr McWhinnie said that the resignation would be discussed at a governors meeting on June 17. He also confirmed that three governors brought in by Powys County Council to support improvements had also left.

The vice-chairman would not be drawn on reports that Mr Simms' resignation was connected to the decision of a newly appointed deputy head not to join the school.

Mr McWhinnie said: "Mr Simms has overseen the transition of the school, which is no longer in special measures, and he has been working closely with the new head teacher Mr Russell Cadwallader to take things to a new level."

Suzanne Foster, the former head teacher of Maesdyre who was sacked after the Estyn report has been fighting to save her teaching career. She left the school in 2011 and has appeared before a General Teaching Council of Wales tribunal. The hearing was adjourned.

Attraction wins award

THE Park Hall countryside attraction, which is also the home of the Welsh Guards Museum, has been voted the best visitor attraction in the Oswestry area by the Trip Advisor website.

Rachel Mottram, from Park Hall, said bosses were delighted with the award.

"We are an all-weather family visitor attraction with regular hands-on animal activities."

"There is never a dull moment for the kids," she said.

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NEWS

Pub puts in bid for two-floor extension

A PUBLICAN in St Martins is hoping to reverse the trend of pub closures in the county by extending his business, creating a jobs boost.

Plans have been lodged by landlord John Smout to extend the Keys pub following the removal of an existing marquee at the site. The move would safeguard the future of the pub and create new jobs, Mr Smout said.

He said: "When I took over the pub two years ago it was rundown and in a pretty bad state. It took eight weeks to get it ready to open and we have managed to change it from a rundown pub to what is now the heart of the village. We want to keep improving and keep the pub successful."

"We started doing food about 12 months ago and because of the bookings we want to create more space."

"I hope this extension will go through and we can keep developing the business."

"We don't know yet how many new jobs there will be because it depends on things go but we could be looking at three more full time jobs and four part time."

The two-storey extension to the rear of the pub will include a lounge, a bar, a restaurant and a games room.

Shropshire Council hopes to make a decision on the application by June 25.

Choir's date to aid village church

THE Orthopaedic Male Voice Choir from Oswestry will be singing in Penybont-fawr on Sunday.

The concert is part of the annual fundraising for St Thomas' Church in the village and will take place in the church.

The event starts at 7pm. For more details call Bethan Davies on (01691) 860233.

X Factor winner James is forced to pull out of OsFest

by Sue Austin



James Arthur

X FACTOR winner James Arthur has pulled out of this weekend's OsFest music festival – just days before he was due to perform.

The Impossible singer, who had been due to be one of the main names in the line-up of this weekend's three-day festival in Oswestry, has been forced to withdraw due to commitments in America, according to event organisers.

His Sunday night spot will be taken by Britain's Got Talent finalist Murs on his arena tour earlier this year.

Carly Jackson, director of OsFest, said: "We are very sorry to have to announce that James Arthur has had to withdraw from OsFest 2013 due to extended recording commitments in the USA."

"His agent and management have offered unreserved apologies for having to pull James from OsFest and wish it to be known that OsFest has absolutely no responsibility for this situation arising."

"While every effort is made to ensure that the artist will meet their commitment to OsFest, on rare occasions unavoidable circumstances do happen and this is just such a case."

Apologise

"We can only apologise on behalf of James Arthur to all his fans that will be disappointed not to see him at OsFest. We will be doing everything we possibly can to get James back to play at OsFest in 2014."

Arthur sold out The Buttermarket in Shrewsbury when he appeared at Christmas.

Pop stars JLS will headline the festival on Saturday. Other names at the festival include Wiley, Lawson, The Pigeon Detectives and AME.

The show is on course to be a sell-out, with well over 4,000 of the 5,000 tickets available already snapped up.

The Osfest – Break for the Border – music festival was taking shape earlier this week, with organisers moving onto the showground. Festival goers will start arriving at the Oswestry Showground tomorrow (Friday) for the three-day event.

After the last Osfest ended in a rainstorm, the 2013 event will see the main stage covered by a big top.

Carly Jackson said: "We have had people ask us if they can pay at the gate. To be honest I wouldn't advise that people do that as they may end up very disappointed."

"At the moment there are some tickets left and if people buy them they will now be available to pick up on the day."

Store's advert a YouTube hit



Steve Edwards and Paul Alexander, at Alexanders of Welshpool.

A DO-IT-YOURSELF advert for a hardware store in Welshpool has become a YouTube hit.

Unlikely singer/songwriting duo Paul Alexander and Steve Edwards penned the words to Alexanders Sell Electric Fires for the advert for the shop on social media.

The latest in a trio of songs about the store has already had over 600 views on the YouTube internet site.

The adverts began last year when Mr Alexander, who runs the shop with his father Duncan, teamed up with well-known local singer Steve Edwards.

With Steve singing to the Billy Joel classic, 'We Didn't Start the Fire', the advert runs through the huge array of goods for sale in the shop, including of course, electric fires, illustrated with photos of staff and items for sale. The pair decided to turn shop

staff's frustration at being constantly asked if they cut keys, into a song. The B-side was penned as 'We Don't Sell Fireworks Either'.

"Then we were in a pub at Christmas and Steve said we should concentrate on the positive, what we do sell, rather than what we don't," said Paul.

"He suggested the Billy Joel song and I came up with some words, after spending my lunchtime going round the shop looking through our products and see what would rhyme with the original tune. Steve took the words and not only recorded the song, he made the fantastic video. It has been a lot of fun but it is also a way to get the shop better known in the wider community."

To watch the song visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=slW8xRouv4Q

Bosses to speak at chamber meeting

DIRECTORS of two award winning companies will be guest speakers at the next meeting of the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Club.

Jenny Pervin of The Gift Experience in Ellesmere and Jude Robinson of Oswestry based GWR Fasteners will be the speakers at the Business Club meeting at The Wynnstay Hotel on Wednesday, June 5.

The two companies collected major honours at the Chronicle Business Awards held in conjunction with the Oswestry Chamber of Commerce at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort earlier this month.

The family run Gift Experience was named Business Of The Year and On-Line Business Of The Year while GWR Fasteners picked up the accolade of Young Business Of The Year after recently relocating from Llanfyllin to Oswestry.

The meeting is open to any business in the Chronicle's circulation area and will follow the monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber is also encouraging more local businesses to enter for awards.

Visit the website at <http://oswestrychamber.org.uk> to find out more and for details of forthcoming meetings.

Hotel pledge will boost charities

THE Royal Oak in Welshpool has made a pledge to local charities that it will provide their function room free of charge for their use.

The owners says the offer is key to supporting the work of charities and have previously made it available for events organised by the air ambulance and The Afghanistan Appeal.

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NEWS

Town centre manager call

BUSINESSES want a town centre manager appointed to promote Welshpool as a destination venue.

Members of Welshpool Projects Business Forum voted to launch 'Discover Welshpool' as part of a shop local scheme, at a meeting on Monday night.

And the forum, made up of the town's business people and town councillors, called on Welshpool Town Council to seek funding to appoint a manager to promote the town centre and market.

Town Clerk Robert Robinson will now ask the Welsh Assembly Government for funding for a town manager and promotion support when Economy Minister Edwina Hart visits the town this summer.

by Graham Breeze

All change on cabinet roles

POWYS County Council has announced changes to the roles of senior cabinet councillors.

Council Leader David Jones announced changes in the way service areas and responsibilities are managed.

He said the changes did not affect the size or membership of the cabinet and have been introduced to ensure areas of responsibility support the county council's new operating structure.

"We have changed the operating structure of the council as part of a drive to become a commissioning council with a greater emphasis on service outcomes," said Councillor Jones.

"Cabinet members' portfolios also change to complement the new structure and provide seamless leadership," he said.

"The council is going through a period of unprecedented change but I am confident that my team is up to that challenge," he said.

The forum will also publish a 'Discover Welshpool' leaflet with a map of the town's shops and attractions identified as part of the campaign to encourage people to shop locally.

And the group will also complete a directory of where you can buy things in the town.

Heather Sherlock of M&Co said Welshpool was unique. "We have so much more to offer than other towns and we need to be more positive and shout about ourselves."

The chairman, Councillor Steve Kaye, said: "I like the idea of a town centre manager who could concentrate on promoting Welshpool. It is a specialist job."

Christine Holmes of Flaunt It said: "Welshpool offers a special shopping experience with its many independent traders. It is just a shame that the market hall looks like a junk shop."

Melvin Parkes of Lamplight Antiques said the hall should have been left as a traditional market.

Quiz fan eyes show jackpot



Stuart Edwards has eyes set on Tipping Point jackpot.

QUIZ fan Stuart Edwards is to put his general knowledge skills to the test in front of a television audience.

Mr Edwards, a salesman at Salop Leisure, has been accepted to appear on the ITV game show Tipping Point, which is hosted by Ben Shephard.

Filming takes place in London next month and Stuart, who lives in Four Crosses, is setting his sights on the £10,000 jackpot. If he wins, he plans to take his wife Elaine back to Sydney where they were married there three years ago.

He's no stranger to television game shows, having won £1,750 prize money on The Weakest Link in 2007 and appeared with workmate Paul Callingham on the BBC One show Pointless last year.

Tipping Point sees contestants

answering general knowledge questions to win counters, which they use on a large coin pusher arcade machine which releases counters worth £50 each.

Stuart said the show appealed to him because he was hooked as a child on the penny cascade machines found in arcades.

"You often hear people in the pub say that they could answer the questions on a television quiz show, but they never put their names forward," he said.

"I'm one of the few people that will have a go because I enjoy quiz shows."

"It would be great if I could win because I would love to take Elaine back to Sydney to visit my cousin, Kim Oliver, who organised our wedding out there three and half years ago."

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NEWS

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Thousands expected at festival

ELLESMERE is expecting to be buzzing with activity during a major festival later this year.

Thousands of people are expected to visit Ellesmere Festival which will take place from September 13 to 15.

The event suffered a double blow earlier this year after organisers revealed two of its main attractions had been axed.

The boat rally held on the Shrop-

shire Union Canal will not be held after not enough volunteers came forward to run the event. And there will also be no fireworks at this year's festival. But organisers say a host of activities are still planned for the weekend.

People will have an opportunity to see the recently upgraded forge at Ellesmere Boatyard, with live demonstrations of the canal blacksmith's art.

And those visiting the forge will

have the option of going by water taxi – a canal work boat that can take up to 10 passengers along the canal from Ellesmere Wharf to the boatyard.

Among the other attractions at this year's festival will be a model railway exhibition by GEM (Group of Ellesmere Modellers) at the town hall and the annual art exhibition at the market hall in which local artists are invited to place their work.

Claims homes will boost town property market

Milestone birthday



Florence Rolfe, from West Felton, celebrates her 100th birthday. Picture: Laura Outfield.

A WOMAN who helped her family run a village shop for many years has celebrated her 100th birthday.

Florence Rolfe, from West Felton, celebrated the landmark last Friday with a tea party for family and friends.

The celebrations will continue tomorrow with a lunch at Oswestry's Sweeney Hotel.

Daughter-in-law Jean Rolfe said many people would remember Mrs Rolfe through her involvement in the family business at Ruy-

ton-XI-Towns. She said: "She ran the village shop in Ruyton-XI-Towns with her husband Gardiner for many years and my husband Robert and I also were involved in the business.

"They ran it from 1956 until they retired in the late 1970s and then my husband and I ran it until we retired in 1998.

"She is still very independent today despite her age and she still enjoys baking her own bread and making jam."

PROPOSALS to build houses in two villages near Oswestry will boost the "severely depressed" property market and provide much needed affordable homes, developers behind the plans have said.

Two separate bids for houses at Babbinswood near Whittington and at Selattyn, both near Oswestry, have been lodged with Shropshire Council.

The Whittington plans, submitted by R Bladen and Sons, would see six homes built.

Papers lodged in support of the bid claim the only way that the village can accommodate open-market development is through small scale extensions to the current development boundary.

The plans add: "The local and national housing market is severely depressed at the moment, and as a result, most new housing developments are simply not currently viable.

"There is also a particularly limited supply of new housing sites in the Oswestry area, owing to the fact that the adopted Local Plan was published some 14 years ago, and the vast majority of allocated housing sites have now been developed.

"Because the application site is owned by an established local builder, the proposed development will actually be built in the short term, adding to the available supply of new homes locally."

The planning statement added that if permission was granted £70,000 would be

by Iain St John

made towards local affordable housing projects and £72,500 will be paid through the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The plans for Selattyn by Mr AE Hughes would see six houses near Gyrn Road in the village.

The proposal comprises one affordable three bedroom home and five open market properties.

Papers lodged in support of that bid say: "This mix has been proposed to provide two larger units to provide financial viability to the proposal with the three smaller-scale properties which could be seen to be more 'affordable' for first-time buyers.

"At present, the majority of units in Selattyn are large detached units which unfortunately push younger residents of the community to rent/purchase properties in other areas such as Oswestry."

The plans would include a contribution of about £55,000 to community infrastructure improvements, the papers say.

Both applications are subject to public consultation.

Work to be put on hold for TV show date

A ROAD closed for water mains renewal will be re-opened to help visitors get to the TV programme Antiques Roadshow, Powys County Council has confirmed.

The B4390 is facing two lengthy road closures between Manafon and Berriew, near Welshpool, to allow major water main renewal work to be carried out on behalf of Severn Trent Water by

Enterprise Plc. Initial work on the project started earlier this month with traffic controls in place, but the second and third phases of the project require road closures with diversions in operation.

Work on the second phase of the project started on Monday and will run until June 21 with the final phase due to start on June 24 and run until July 26.

Road diversions will be in place throughout the work. But, work will be suspended on July 4 to allow visitors to attend the popular BBC programme Antiques Roadshow which will be taking place at Gregynog Hall, Tregynon.

More information about the water mains project can be found at <http://www.enterprise.plc.uk/manafon-road>

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NEWS

01691 668094

Pyjamas at ready for walk fundraiser

ABOUT 250 people have so far agreed to get their jimjams and nighties on for a charity's first ever midnight pyjama walk, delighted fundraisers have revealed.

Cash raised from Midnight Walk next month will go towards Hope House Children's Hospice.

The four-mile walk is taking place on the evening of June 15 from the hospice in Morda, near Oswestry.

Organisers say 250 ladies are expected to take part and each will receive free glowing boppers to set the town aglow during the walk.

And the strollers will also receive goodies en route including chocolate, bacon bummies and hot drinks.

Fundraiser Lynsey Kilvert said: "We have already had a huge response to our first ever Midnight Walk and are busy getting in boppers, chocolate and refreshments for the event."

There is still time to sign up for the fundraiser for just £15 or £12 for groups of five or more.

Fundraising manager Vanessa Thomas said: "Many of the families who use Hope House become used to sleepless nights nursing their children - we are appealing to people to give up just one night's sleep and show their support for our families."

Contact the fundraising office on (01691) 671671.

Supercar-crazy Suzanne is behind special cinema show

A CAR enthusiast secured a supercar spectacular at the premiere of the Fast and Furious 6.

Suzanne Lednor, of Oswestry, went full throttle to get the fleet of fast cars to Cineworld at Bentley Bridge, Wolverhampton.

The motor mad 33-year-old had 20 impressive engines outside the cinema with two drag cars inside the foyer. The new Hollywood blockbuster featured Telford stunt man Justin Pearson and was the sixth instalment of the action series.

People came from as far afield as London to display their motors and pay tribute to Ryan Husted of the West Midlands, who was killed in March.

He had been a member of Just-Kroozin car club and scores of friends, family and fellow car enthusiasts joined forces to remember him. They then watched the film.

Suzanne, who used to run clubs Cruise Shropshire and Shropshire Modified and Performance Car Club, helped to organise and encourage drivers from across the country to attend including the Defined Ridez club.

Suzanne, of Middleton Road, said: "People are really proud of their cars. They spend a lot of money, some have spent £40,000 on a car, that is the length some go to."

"It is about Ryan and to

by Jennifer Meierhans

get noticed for the hard work they have done on their cars.

"I was told he was a kind person, he enjoyed his life which is the same as anyone in this scene."

She added people were happy to come from miles away.

"It is chance to see what other people are doing. It is a trend, like a fashion, there are certain wheels that will be in and then there is a change of direction."

Ryan, aged 25, of Walsall, was killed when his motorbike collided with a car in Walsall on March 2.

Some of the awe-inspiring automobiles on show included a Lamborghini, Mitsubishi Evo 5, Nissan 180sx, Nissan 370z and an Audi TT.

"VWs are my favourite, I've always felt safe in them and I know how they function so I can do it myself."



Pictured at Cineworld, Wolverhampton at the premiere of Fast and Furious 6, is Suzanne Lednor, 33, from Oswestry, and Ignition girls Karla Maple and Cara Wilson.

Venues to show live broadcast of operas

WORLD class opera will be coming to Oswestry with screenings broadcast live from this year's Glyndebourne Summer Festival.

The screenings, organised by Kinokulture, will take place at The Attfield Theatre in The Guildhall.

Glyndebourne in Sussex is one of the world's premiere opera houses, and its summer festival celebrates world class music and the theatre.

This year's festival opens on June 4 with Ariadne auf Naxos by Richard Strauss, conducted by Vladimir Jurowski and continues with works by Verdi, Mozart, Jean-Philippe Rameau, Donizetti and Benjamin Britten throughout June, July and August.

Film programmer from Kinokulture Ruth Carter said: "This is a new experiment for us but following on from the success of our National Theatre Live broadcasts and with ticket prices set at £12 for adults and £10 for under 16s we hope these events will be affordable and encourage audiences to explore something different."

Season tickets offering all six screenings for the price of five are also available.

On June 4 doors open at the Attfield Theatre at 6.30pm and the screening begins at 7pm.

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NEWS

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Golf day tribute to raise cash for fund

A MEMORIAL golf day is being organised in memory of a Shropshire Rotarian and amateur international golfer.

The Niel Kelly Memorial in aid of Prostate Cancer UK will be played at Oswestry Golf Club on August 21.

Mr Kelly, who was a founder member of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, had played golf as an amateur for Ulster and Ireland.

He was a well respected member at Oswestry Golf Club, had been captain of Royal St David's and Shropshire and Herefordshire county captain twice.

His wife Sandra will donate and present the Niel Kelly trophy and cups.

Teams of four are being invited to take part at a cost of £160 per team. Contact Geoff Lloyd, president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, on (01743) 364936 or e-mail julian.wells@gmail.com.

Geoff Lloyd said: "We want this to be a really special day and we are looking for 20 teams of four to book their day of golf now."

"Rotarians and others who don't play golf can caddy and take part and we are looking forward to this being a very happy charity golf day in memory of Niel who was so popular both as a golfer and Rotarian."

Police planning crackdown over bad boot sale parking

A CRACKDOWN on illegal parking at a car boot sale near Oswestry is to take place, police have said.

Officers say some drivers who park at Chirk Car Boot Sale near Oswestry have shown a 'total disregard' to the safety of other motorists.

A dozen motorists were issued with fines last summer at the Sunday morning attraction and police say they are reminding motorists visiting the sale they will crack down again on illegal parkers.

Police said the fresh move would be taken following recent boot sales at the site which raised concerns that the traffic problem may return this summer.

They say they are giving an 'early warning' that enforcement action will be taken against offending motorists who ignore warnings from the police and council officials.

Local Inspector Nick Evans, of North Wales Police, said: "A lot of drivers display a total disregard and ignorance for other road users."

"When they abandon their cars on pavements or grass verges they not only obstruct the free flow of traffic on a very busy road, but more worryingly they cause a hazard obstructing a clear view for other motorists and obstruct pedestrians' right of way which could lead to a collision and injury."

The car boot sales, which attract tens of thousands of people every weekend, take place on land just off the busy A5.

The police's stance was welcomed by Councillor Terry Evans, one of Chirk's representatives on Wrexham Council.

Councillor Evans said: "This has been a problem for many years and I welcome the police doing this."

"The council has sent up traffic wardens, the police have been there and we have tried other things but the problems continue."

"It is a safety problem and some people are not listening."

He added: "I hope people will listen to the warning."

by Iain St John

Fundraising on menu at venue

A COFFEE morning with a difference will be held in a Mid Wales village next month to raise funds for a church.

A Crispy Bacon Bap & Coffee Morning will be held on June 1 between 10.30am and 12.30pm, at The Stable, Pentre Llifor near Berriew.

A variety of cakes as well as tea and cold drinks will also be available at the venue which nestles alongside the road between Berriew and Bettws Cedewain.

Organisers say all are welcome to call in whether they are just passing and wishing to grab a bacon bap or whether they would like to enjoy their food and drink at a more leisurely pace.

Baps will be priced at £1 each and coffee or tea at 50p with cakes varying depending upon type and size of slice.

Car parking and toilet facilities are also available on site and all profits from the morning will be in aid of Pentre Llifor Chapel Funds.

Women at war theme for dinner



Mike Antcliff, from Weston Rhyn, getting ready for the charity dinner in aid of Help for Heroes.

AN annual charity dinner which once earned the praise of former Prime Minister Lady Thatcher is to have a distinctly female theme this year.

Service personnel, some of whom have served in Afghanistan, will be guests at the Last Inn at Hengoed, near Oswestry, on June 1 to raise money for Help for Heroes.

The dinners have been held for the last 10 years and have raised £10,000.

Weston Rhyn man Mike Antcliff, who served in the navy for 25 years, helps organise the gatherings along with Tim Owens, a serving wing commander in the RAF who also lives in the village.

Mr Antcliff said each year the dinner had a different theme, and this year's would be Women in War.

"This year the women are taking over and they are doing a lot of the organising," he added. "The dinner will be chaired by Hannah Sykes, Tim Owens' partner, who recently returned from Afghanistan having served there as flight lieutenant."

In 2007 – the 25th anniversary of the Falklands War – Lady Thatcher wrote to the organisers to wish them her "warmest wishes" ahead of that year's dinner.

Mr Antcliff added: "Everybody is really generous and we always have a great time."

Police in warning to elderly on scams

POLICE have issued a warning that the elderly in the Welshpool area could become scam targets.

As part of its commitment to help reduce crimes in the elderly and vulnerable community, Dyfed-Powys Police is warning people to be aware of a variety of sophisticated scams.

The incidents range from telephone scams where fraudsters claim to be calling from organisations which can repair, or remove any unwanted and corrupted files on their computer. They may claim to be from the tax office, or ministry of justice and offering opportunities of cash rebates.

Or they may even purport to be charitable organisations.

This type of offence can easily deceive vulnerable people and have a devastating impact on their lifestyle and confidence.

"You should never provide security or card details over the phone," said Sergeant Malcolm James. "And never give out your bank details."

"We recently had an incident where an elderly person did this and lost a lot of money as a result."

"If you receive any calls you think are suspicious please call us on 101. And remember you can also report any fraud or internet crime please at www.actionfraud.police.uk"

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Businesses fighting back to put town on map

THE business community in Welshpool is ready to fight back and put the town firmly on the map as a unique place to shop.

Members of Welshpool's Business Forum plan to put a positive spin on the benefits of the town in a bid to keep people shopping locally.

The forum this week called on the town council to find the funding for a manager to promote Welshpool as a unique market town and will publish a 'Discover Welshpool' leaflet mapping out the benefits to shoppers.

The forum is part of the Welshpool Projects Group established by the town council following the demise of Welshpool Chamber of Commerce and Monday night's meeting was easily the most constructive so far.

Like all towns Welshpool has its problems but at least a plan is starting to emerge and the businesses which have survived are fighting back.

One councillor chose to lay the blame for

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

with Graham Breeze



any of Welshpool's problems at the door of the local press for publishing negative stories. The reality is that the media only covers the news as it happens and sadly of late that news has not been too positive.

But there are good signs for Welshpool with new shops and cafes opening in both Church and Berriew Streets and established traders determined to succeed.

These traders still need the backing and support of the local authorities and it was a shame to see only three town councillors attend the forum meeting.

The shopkeepers also need the support of the local police in dealing with a worrying trend of anti-social behaviour on the town's streets, mainly involving alcohol.

Shoppers are being intimidated and the town council is to be commended for taking the lead in collating information to pass on to the police about any incidents that occur.

I JUST can't believe that X Factor winner James Arthur has pulled out of this weekend's OsFest music festival – just days before he was due to perform.

His Sunday night spot will be taken by Britain's Got Talent finalists The Loveable Rogues. The three-piece band supported Olly Murs on his Arena Tour earlier this year.

It's really bad form by the guy who took Britain by storm with his amazing performances on the popular TV show and while the organisers are hiding their disappointment there can be little excuse for his deci-

sion to pull out at such short notice.

ACCIDENT and emergency units in hospitals across the country are in chaos as more and more patients seek attention that should clearly be provided by their local GP.

One quick route to easing the problem would be to adopt the French system and introduce charges which are refunded to genuine cases at the end of the tax year. It would be interesting to see how the numbers dropped if money had to change hands.

WHAT amused me this week was the news that Powys County Council is to re-open a stretch of road closed for repairs simply to help a TV programme.

Lengthy roadworks between the villages of Berriew and Manafon, near Welshpool will be halted for a day – so that visitors can get to the Antiques Roadshow being filmed at Gregynog Hall. Somebody must have contacts in the right place.

Pet therapy for patients at orthopaedic hospital

by Jennifer Meierhans

A SUDDEN slip left dog lover Brenda Howells with a broken back, staring at the ceiling day after day.

Having been told she would never walk again, she grieved for the days she used to stride out with her Jack Russell, Skippy. But then Labrador Bill bounded to her hospital bedside.

Bill is supplied by the charity Pets as Therapy (PAT) and the mother-of-two said his visits to the spinal injuries unit at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital had made her more determined to master a wheelchair and get out with her own faithful friend.

Brenda, 63, of Oxley, Wolverhampton, said: "It's lovely because I am missing my Jack Russell Skippy."

"It gives you a bit of a boost as you are lying here day after day."

The retired secretary for social services has been in hospital for three weeks and faces another three-month stay while she recovers.

"I slipped over in the bathroom and I couldn't get up again," she explained.

"I've broken two of my spinal bones. Although they are fused back together I won't walk again."

"So it's lovely to see the dogs and chat to their owners."

"I hope the dogs enjoy it as much as we do."

"I am looking forward to getting out in a wheelchair but it's going to be two or three months before I leave here."

"I can't bring Skippy in here so these dogs remind me of him and I know he's waiting for me. So I will learn to use a wheelchair so I can get out with him."

Pets as Therapy provides dogs and cats for therapeutic visits to hospitals, hospices, nursing homes and special needs schools.

Bill's owner, Valerie Howell, was familiar with the hospital, having been director of



Specially-trained dog being used at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital as part of a pets therapy programme. Labrador Mel with patient Beryl Hurdle. Pictures: Peter Shah.

nursing at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and service development manager for Macmillan Cancer Support.

"I've had Bill for three years," said Valerie, 69, of Weston Lane, Oswestry.

"He was a rescue dog. He had been a stud and a show dog and when his career was over they rehomed him."

"I felt comfortable in hospitals and nursing homes and I've always known the value of dogs."

"When I met Bill he was the right temperament, so I applied to the charity."

Nine-year-old Bill had to undergo assessments to make sure he was suited to the job.

"They have to be calm but friendly but not over-enthusiastic because you don't

want a big Labrador jumping up you," explained Valerie.

"They have to be comfortable walking and being touched all over as they are touched in very different ways to how they are used to."

"They must be able to take treats gently and have to be able to cope with sudden noises and movements."

The pair regularly visit Leesfield Nursing Home in Oswestry and Hope House Children's Hospice in Morda.

"Hope House is very different," said Valerie. "It's a much quieter place and Bill is treated differently depending on the child, some will just lie next to him, others will walk him."



Therapy dog Mel with volunteer Juliet Pumphrey.

Brenda is not the only patient who credits the kind natured canines with aiding their recovery.

Beryl Hurdle, 54, of Llangollen, said: "When I first came in I could only move my big toe but because I was determined to pat the dogs I got my arms working."

Beryl has owned dogs in the past and hopes to open her home to another four legged friend when she leaves hospital.

"It's a great scheme," she said. "I just got kisses and handshakes from one of the most adorable Labradors I have seen."

"I believe PAT have definitely helped to improve my recovery."

For more information about PAT visit www.petsastherapy.org



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At Powis Castle, from left, are Andrew Beeston, Maryanne Lineker-Mobberley, from Halls, visitor services manager Jenny Knight, Caroline Dennard, from Halls, and Halls fine art director Jeremy Lamond.



Halls fine art director Jeremy Lamond and collectable ceramics specialist Caroline Dennard take a look at Daphne Jeffreys and Malcolm Jenkins' family heirloom.

Amazing relics turn up at a charity valuation

by Andrew Morris

AN early 18th century wine bottle discovered in the roots of a fallen tree in the grounds of Powis Castle, and a 19th century penny farthing bicycle were among the items assessed by a team of experts at a charity antiques valuation event.

Hosted by Halls, the event was held at Powis Castle in Welshpool last Wednesday, raising hundreds of pounds for the National Trust.

The onion-shaped wine bottle was valued by Jeremy Lamond, fine art director at Shrewsbury-based Halls, at up to £300. He said the valuation would have run into thousands had there been a Powis Castle stamp on it.

The penny farthing now belongs to Paul Williams, of Welshpool, but it was originally owned by his grandfather Ted Williams, who was manager of Harold Thomas' garage in the town, where the bicycle was on display for many years.

Now in a rusty condition and not able to be ridden, the bicycle was valued at up to £600 by Mr Lamond, who was joined at the event by senior auctioneer and valuer Andrew Beeston, silver, jewellery and books specialist Maryanne Lineker-Mobberley and ceramics specialist Caroline Dennard.

Mr Beeston valued a 19th century cabinet-maker's tool box, which had been gifted to the owner's father by a local wheelwright, at up to £1,000 and he also saw a Victorian 18 carat gold pocket watch with a good chronograph movement, which was worth up to £2,500.

Other interesting items assessed by the experts were a Sabino glass cockerel at up to £300, a William IV cruet set with eight glass and silver mounted condiments at up to £800, an 18 carat gold Chester open faced pocket watch at up to £500 and a Katharine Pleydell vase at up to



Halls Fine Art director Jeremy Lamond and collectable ceramics specialist Caroline Dennard, right, with Daphne Jeffreys and her family heirloom.

£300. A charge of £1 was made for each item valued, with all the proceeds going towards conservation work at the National Trust property.

The event was staged in the ballroom at Powis Castle where the garden was open from 6pm to 9pm, with free entry to all visitors.

Rare

Jenny Knight, Powis Castle's visitor services manager, thanked the team from Halls for providing their services free of charge and members of the public who had attended the charity event.

She said: "It was a fantastic evening with some superb items brought to be valued."

Mr Lamond added: "The valuation evenings that we hold at Powis Castle always attract rare and interesting items and we appreciate the support that Halls receives from people living in Mid Wales."

Meanwhile, a team of experts from Halls also attended Llanfair Caereinion Primary School last week for a similar event, raising £300 for the Friends of the school.

The items valued included a three stone diamond ring valued at up to £5,000, a five piece Victorian tea service worth around £4,000, and a diamond set floral spray valued at up to £500.

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WELSHPOOL

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Farmer's wind turbine scheme is thrown out

Step back in time for party



THE Royal Oak Hotel and Rainbow Records in Welshpool are presenting an electric 80s party night. There will be four hours of 80s party music at the hotel on Sunday from 8pm until midnight. Fancy dress is optional. Tickets at £7.50 each are available from Rainbow Records in the Market Hall, Welshpool, and The Royal Oak in Welshpool. Call (01686) 640557. Promoting the night were Laura Hindle and Tom Horne, from the hotel. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

by Andrew Morris

PLANS to build a 34-metre high wind turbine on a farm in Mid Wales which attracted dozens of complaints from the local community have been thrown out.

Farmer Peter Bailey of Pant Mawr, Meifod, near Welshpool, had applied to construct the turbine on his farm in a bid to create energy which will be used to power farm equipment.

But protesters say the turbine – which would have been made up of a 24.8 metre pole and a blade extending to 34.8 metres – would have had a detrimental effect on the landscape.

It comes after Russell George, Montgomeryshire AM, called on First Minister Carwyn Jones to fight for the people of Mid Wales against wind turbine applications.

Powys County Council's planning committee voted to refuse the plans for Meifod on the basis that the applicant had not submitted enough information about the visual impact or how the parts for the turbine would be delivered to the farm.

A notice issued by the committee said: "The proposed development occupies an open, exposed and highly visible location which is detached from any other built form."

Mr George made his comments after Mr Jones made a statement on the Welsh Assembly's progress on implementing its energy policy plan Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition, which he announced just over a year ago.

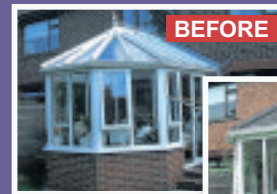
Mr George accused the First Minister of being 'out of touch' in not listening to communities across Wales.

He said: "In Mid Wales there is a real feeling of mistrust of you and of your Government's active support of the wind industry and the talk of community benefits is just too late."

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Bid to rid town of anti-social behaviour

POLICE and councillors are getting together to rid Welshpool town centre of anti-social behaviour.

And the town council wants residents to come forward to report any anti-social incidents, such as drink-related, dog fouling, physical and verbal abuse and littering.

"The town of Welshpool has been suffering with anti-social behaviour and drinking related problems affecting peoples lives and retailers in the town centre," said town clerk Robert Robinson.

"Such behaviour does nothing to help the town, nor does it help with keeping Welshpool a great place to live. The town council is working with the police to try and tackle these problems head-on at a very senior level," he added.

"To aid this process, the town council needs to provide evidence with regard to the scale of the problem."

The council is asking for reports, including date, location and short description of the activity, to be e-mailed to town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk or in writing to Triangle House, Union Street, Welshpool.

"Your help is needed so that we can all start to tackle the anti-social minority which causes such concern to many residents of Welshpool," he added.

Flower power fun as railway goes back to swinging 60s

Carnival comeback after date clash axe

WELSHPOOL carnival, which attracts hundreds of people to the town is set to make a comeback – just a year after it was cancelled.

The carnival will be held on Monday and will see hundreds of people take to the town's streets and Maesdyre Recreation Ground for a day of fun.

The event was called off last year after organisers failed to agree a date because the event clashed with Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in a busy summer for the town.

Trish Hodges, carnival secretary, said she was hoping as many people as possible would get involved and make it a day to remember.

She said: "I am hopeful that carnival will be a fantastic event with lots planned but we are still urging people who want a stall or people who can help out on the day to get in touch."

"One of the top draws this year will be the Shadow Quest dog display team, who will showcase the talents learned by police dogs and the security industry."

"There will also be zumba dancing, stalls, competitions and a fun fair on the Maesdyre Recreation Ground after the parade of floats, which will pass through the town starting at the Berriw Street car park at 1pm."

For more information call (01938) 556896 after 6pm.



Volunteer Willy Field at the Welshpool Station end of the light railway.



Carina Parkinson and Rosie Schubert.



Classic car owner Tony Flewelling with his 1956 AC Aceca.



Volunteer Stewart Charman at Welshpool Station.



Volunteers Liz Parkinson and Carmelita Bailey. Picture: Peter Shah.

CLASSIC machinery, classic tunes and classic, colourful outfits invaded the Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway over the weekend, as the railway staged a Swinging Sixties event as part of its golden anniversary celebrations.

The event saw a return to the days of

by Sue Austin

flower power, mini skirts and the Twiggy look, the period half a century ago when a small band of enthusiasts reopened the first section of the railway as a heritage line.

This was just seven years after the nine-mile long narrow gauge route had been declared uneconomical and closed.

Following on from the April commemora-

tion day event aimed firmly at the railway's members, the Swinging Sixties weekend was a chance for the local community and visiting tourists to join in the celebrations and have fun at the same time.

Masterminded by a small team led by railway trustee Caroline Schubert, the event included sounds of the Sixties played at both Welshpool and Llanfair stations, a host of classic machines filling the car parks – in particular a large contingent from the

Austin Seven Club on Sunday, and plenty of Sixties fashion too from both railway volunteers and visitors.

Meanwhile halfway along the line young members occupied Castle Caereinion station and staged a mini-Woodstock, greeting trains and handing out flowers for delighted passengers to wear in their hair.

The railway's anniversary celebrations will climax with the traditional Steam Gala on August 31 and September 1.

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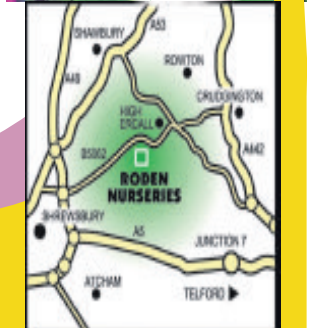
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NEWS

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Calls for town living and jobs Pupils given taste of life at university

Village shop raising cash for charity



Setting out some donated items is Sue Gray, from the shop. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

A THRIVING village shop is turning curiosities into cash for community causes.

The 50/50 shop next to Lewis's garage in Llandrinio has gone from strength to strength since it opened three years ago.

Residents bring in unwanted items and pocket half the money if they are sold – with the other half donated to the village hall.

Co-ordinator Sue Gray, 68, heads up a team of 10 dedicated volunteers who have found customers to be very kind-hearted.

"It's going very well," she said. "Lots of people give up their 50 per cent so it all goes to Llandrinio Village Hall for ongoing projects for the whole community."

"We make a nice amount for the village."

We take everything you can imagine, apart from electricals or anything too large, but people bring things in, we have it for a month and if it doesn't sell they can take it back or we can donate it to a charity shop.

"Some things you think 'that won't sell' and it goes straight out of the door."

"Other times you think 'that'll do well' and it gets no interest."

"You can get some bargains though," she continued. "We get quite a lot of visitors from the caravan park that come to have a look."

"People of the village have been so supportive so I'd like to thank them along with the volunteers who give up their time."

The 50/50 shop is open from Monday to Friday from 10.30am until 3.30am and on Saturdays from 10.30am until 12.30pm.

Region's roads a crash blackspot

A "DISPROPORTIONATELY" large number of motorcycle accidents happen on Mid Wales roads, the Welsh Assembly has said.

There were a total of 68 motorcyclists injured in the county in 2011 – 11 per cent of the Welsh total and the Assembly is now spending £6million across the country in a bid to reduce the numbers.

Edwina Hart, transport minister, said: "Motorcyclists are amongst the most at-risk groups of road users in Wales. Their likelihood of being involved in a serious collision is disproportionate. In Wales in 2011 they made up one per cent of road traffic, but 37 per cent of those killed or seriously injured in a vehicle."

"We have not seen a significant reduction in casualty numbers amongst motorcyclists over the last decade, in contrast to the

reductions amongst other groups of road users. This is not something that I consider acceptable."

She added: "Mid Wales does have a disproportionate number of motorcyclist road casualties."

"We will continue to work with Dyfed-Powys Police and other partners through Operation Darwin which targets these riders to educate them about the importance of safety and, where appropriate, enforce the law."

"I have provided local authorities with £6m of road safety funding in 2013/14, some of which will be used to specifically target motorcyclists."

Meanwhile, motorists in Mid Wales are being urged to take more care on the roads following a spate of accidents. Dyfed-Powys Police and Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said people should take more care.

Hall hosts flower show

THE annual Ellesmere Flower and Produce Show will be held on August 24.

It will take place in Ellesmere Market Hall, from 2pm. Schedules for the event have been completed and will be available in the info link and library.

For more information call (01691) 622905.

OSWESTRY'S future should focus on town living and town employment and not housing and industrial estates stretching south towards Shrewsbury, the head of the civic society said.

Saffron Rainey wants to see fewer cars in the town centre, fewer one-way systems and more people walking or cycling.

In the Oswestry and District Civic Society quarterly newsletter, Mr Rainey says the society's Keep Oswestry Special message should continue.

He said the town's position, its medieval history, culture, ingenuity and its hillfort already made it special.

by Sue Austin

But he said the town had some serious problems. He said: "Three of the town's wards – Castle, Gatacre and Cambrian – are among some of the most deprived in the county, quality jobs are few and far between and most people work in low skilled, low paid, long hours jobs."

"The high street is in parts hollowed out with a sad and destitute feel. The supposed imminent arrival of the out-of-town supermarket will hardly address these underlying issues, it may well make them worse."

Mr Rainey is also concerned about the forthcoming Oswestry 2020 Town Plan. "It will say the town needs industrial parks and more housing

stretching out towards Shrewsbury. My aspiration is for Oswestry to thrive while forging a national reputation for the quality of its life."

"First and foremost we must focus development on town living. That means prioritising high-density quality homes in and around the town centre."

"Alongside that we need to create places which will attract high quality employment again located in the town. The clearest indicator of success will be how walkabout our town is."

"Success will look like lots of people on bicycles, pavements bustling with people walking in and out of town, fewer cars in the town centre and fewer, one-ways systems."

"People of all ages will live in the town in a mixture of housing, and there would be more green."

STUDENTS with higher education aspirations are set to sample life at one of the country's most prestigious universities.

Nine year 10 students from The Marches School in Oswestry will check into halls at St John's College, Cambridge this week.

They will dine in the college's private dining room before spending a full day on campus, talking to current students and touring the grounds and buildings.

Claire Buckle, head of sixth form at The Marches School, said: "We are very grateful to Cambridge University for providing us with

the opportunity to visit and we anticipate this being a very helpful and informative trip for our Year 10 students."

"We are very excited about this developing partnership between The Marches and Cambridge University and the benefits it will bring."

The Marches was chosen by the university to act as a hub school to deliver information, advice and guidance within the county.

Parents and students who were unable to attend the school's information event, delivered by Cambridge University, can visit www.marchesschool.co.uk

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Firm's quirky creatures at Cannes



The Despicable Me glasses being installed at Cannes.



Tony Ward and Matt Jones with a three-metre minion.



The goggles on show at the festival.

by Jennifer Meierhans

EXTRAORDINARY creatures are the order of the day for a company based near Welshpool, which is having its latest project admired by some of the biggest names in film.

Big Beasts Ltd, based at Castle Court Works in Leighton, creates curious creatures for film sets.

And their latest quirky contract – for Universal Pictures – has taken the team to the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in France.

There they have unveiled a pair of six-metre long goggles to promote the animated comedy film Despicable Me 2.

"It's a huge honour to be doing this for Universal Pic-

tures," said design engineer Matt Jones. "This is probably one of our most prestigious clients."

"This is our first installation as we have mainly been UK based."

The Cannes Film Festival runs from May 15 to 26 and the glasses are attracting a lot of attention.

"Lots of passing people stopped to take photos and our piece is the first to be erected at the film festival so is grabbing quite a lot of attention," Mr Jones added.

"Universal Pictures members came on site and we received some positive feedback for our work."

The master moulds for the goggles were constructed of MDF profiles cut by Welshpool based MTM Interiors LTD who build made-to-measure kitchens and furniture.

The Big Beasts team was joined by their glass reinforced plastic expert Richard Reeves of RA Mouldings, for the con-

struction of the goggles, which took one month to build.

They were transported by trailer to the South of France and are now mounted on a billboard with gleaming eyes backlit by led lamps.

Big Beasts was founded by two directors, Paul Barrett-Brown and Steve Merchant.

Retired

Paul's background was in film and Steve's in fine art.

In 2008 they joined forces and named the company after their early work, creating dinosaurs for museums and large scale models.

In February 2012, Paul retired and passed on the torch on to Tony Ward.

Last November, Universal Pictures asked the crew to build three metre high Minions to be displayed in major cin-

emas across the UK for the release of Despicable Me 2. Then last month the spectacular order for goggles came in. Matt said: "We were asked to make them as true to the film as possible."

"This includes rivets around the goggle rims, lenses, textured leather straps, metallic colour, realistic eyes looking in a direction, eye lids and metal buckles."

Other outlandish orders have included a six-metre long greyhound on top of a limousine for www.itsthe dogs.com and a giant mirrorball for W Hotels in Leicester Square, London, adorned with 17,000 hand stuck and shaped mirrors. The creative crew also brought to life a four-metre tall talking tree for family visitor attraction, King Arthur's Labyrinth in Machynlleth.

To find out more about Big Beasts visit www.big-beasts.com or www.facebook.com/BigBeastsLtd

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Beauty expert Charlotte joins team at Hairspray

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OSWESTRY'S newest hair-dressing salon has been open for nine months and is growing in popularity with a bulging appointments book.

Hairspray was opened by well known stylists Lisa Askey and Hayley Williams at the end of July last year and the business is growing in the newly-fitted salon.

The partners enjoy a solid working relationship, having worked together prior to launching Hairspray and have already established a regular client base at 52b Salop Road.

Charlotte Ford, who has been in the beauty industry for over three years, has now joined the team offering a variety of treatments, such as threading and shellac nail polishing with a walk-in service available.

Having trained at Walford and North Shropshire College, Charlotte has worked at Carden Park and Arch Angel2 in Debenhams of Wrexham and offers a professional service.

The unisex salon offers the best service in beautifully designed surroundings with a team that understands client needs.

There is also a special wedding package offer available which includes a champagne reception and breakfast for the bride and bridesmaids.

Hairspray are stockists of Tigi with a full range of products available for purchase. It also offers a 10 per cent off voucher if you visit five times.

The salon is open Tuesday to Saturday with late appointments on Thursdays and Fridays.

Call (01691) 653821 or drop in a 52b Salop Road or you can contact Charlotte on 07527 066018.



Charlotte Ford has joined the team at Hairspray in Oswestry.

Lisa & Hayley welcome Charlotte to Hairspray

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NEWS

in brief

High Sheriff at group's lunch

MEMBERS of the Ellesmere Support Group of the Severn Hospice welcomed the High Sheriff of Shropshire to their annual Sunday lunch.

More than 100 people heard Diana Flint explain about the origins of the high sheriff's office and the duties she will carry out during her year in the post. She attended the event with her husband Charles.

Mike Perry also spoke about the work of Severn Hospice and in particular the outreach workers whose contributions often go unnoticed.

At the event last Sunday members of the committee were presented with long service badges and certificates.

For more information call Carol Ashley on (01939) 270224.

Jewellery on sale at town craft fair

A SPRING craft fair will be held at Welshpool Town Hall on Saturday.

The fair, organised by Welshpool Town Council, will be held in the Corn Exchange room at the town hall between 9am and 4pm.

There will be 15 stalls of handcrafted goods made by local crafters and artisans including jewellery, oil paintings, wood-turning, greetings cards and jams and chutneys.

Farming chiefs angered by refusal to ban sky lanterns

FARMING chiefs in Mid Wales have called for an outright ban on the manufacture and sale of sky lanterns due to fears over the safety of animals.

The Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) has also called for the release of the lanterns to be made illegal in the UK after fears that they could either cause fire on farms or injure animals.

A report commissioned by the Welsh Assembly and Defra recommends that the lanterns and helium balloons should not be banned. But the FUW has called on them to think again.

The report looked at the risks sky lanterns and helium balloons have on livestock health, the environment, fire risk, damage to marine life and consumer safety.

Andrew Gurney, FUW land use policy officer, said he felt let down that the report did not recommend a ban.

He said: "After consulting our members, the union called for an outright ban on the manufacture and sale of sky lanterns and for their release to be made illegal in the UK."

"We received numerous reports from members of sky lanterns being found in fields which were being grazed, were about to be grazed, or cut for silage or hay. Other more serious reports received included a lantern found smouldering in a barn containing hay and straw and a cow injured following a stampede started by lanterns floating over fields containing livestock."

"The report concedes the evidence received suggests widespread concern from farmers and others over the impact of sky lanterns on the health and welfare of livestock and horses."

He added: "We were therefore very surprised and disappointed that they also said the evidence indicated the number of cases reported annually of animals affected through panic and fright and of ingestion of sky lantern debris was 'very small'."

"The study accepted there may be a significant level of under-reporting but, based on the evidence received for the report, they found it difficult to conclude that the overall impact is anything other than 'of minor significance'."

by Andrew Morris

"The study's findings are disappointing because, in our evidence to the report, we stressed the union was wholly opposed to the release of sky lanterns due to the dangers they pose to the agricultural sector."

He added: "Sky lanterns also pose a considerable fire risk, during the dry summer months, to open heath land as well as to standing crops in fields or once harvesting has taken place and the crop is stored in fields or barns."

"On the issue of helium balloons, the impact usually relates to livestock becoming startled or frightened by balloons floating over fields and causing them to stampede or trample fencing resulting in injury and the associated welfare issues and financial costs."

A Defra spokesman said: "While farmers have lost livestock due to ingested wire from sky lanterns, the evidence from this independent report shows that any widespread risk of injury and death to cattle and impact on the environment is low."

"Based on these findings we have no plans to ban the use of sky lanterns."

Limbering up for midnight walk



HOPE House Children's Hospice are almost ready for their first ever Ladies Midnight Walk. The four-mile walk on June 15 starts at the Hospice grounds in Morda with 250 ladies taking part. Hope House fundraising staff showing off some of the gifts the ladies who take part will get on the walk. Chloe Evans, fundraising administrator, left with Lynsey Kilvert, fundraiser. Picture: Ian Sheppard.

Town will link up with team in training

LEADERS from the African kingdom of Lesotho have visited a school on the Shropshire/Welsh border to announce a unique sporting partnership ahead of next year's Commonwealth Games.

The Maelor School in Penley hosted a visit by representatives of Team Lesotho who confirmed they would be returning as part of their preparations for the games in Glasgow.

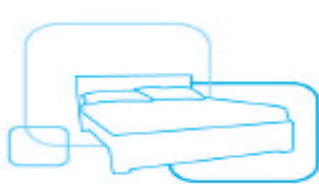
The African team will base themselves in the Wrexham area and train in North Wales following a similar link-up for last year's Olympics.

Thesele Maseribane, Lesotho's minister of gender and youth, sports and recreation confirmed the move during a visit to the Maelor School.

The school has developed an exchange programme with Lesotho's St Saviour's School in Leribe.

Mr Maseribane was welcomed by the school's Basotho choir singing African hymns and was also given a tour around the facilities by headteacher Simon Ellis.

Mr Maseribane said: "The town's excellent sporting facilities and friendliness of the people made it very easy for us when deciding to return for the Commonwealth Games."



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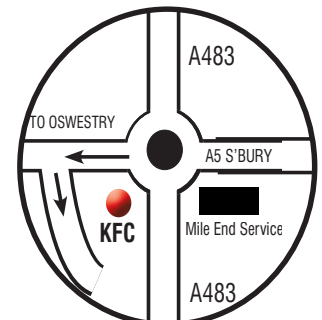


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NEWS

01691 668094

Chance to view art in action at studios

ART lovers can take a tour with a difference next month when more than 30 painters, sculptors and other craft workers open their studios in and around Oswestry.

The Borderland Visual Arts group is holding its annual studios event from June 15 to 16 and 22 to 23.

Over the two weekends studios in homes, barns, warehouses and galleries will hold exhibitions, demonstrations and workshops.

Diana Baur said it would be the 13th open studios event. She said: "The BVA now boasts 64 members working in disciplines including paintings, textiles, sculpture, photography, woodcarving, glass, pottery and printmaking."

"This is a chance for people to tour not one but a number of studios in a day or a weekend. We will have red balloons and banners to point people to our studios."

As well as individual studios there will be several galleries hosting more than one artist. These include the Cambrian Studios in Coney Green and The Willow Gallery in Oswestry and Ashfield in Bronygarth.

All studios will be open from 10am until 5pm on both weekends.

For more information visit www.borderlandvisualarts.com

Corbally visit an inspiration

by Iain St John

OSWESTRY'S markets could be one of the keys to opening the door to new enterprises, its town mayor has said.

Mayor Chris Schofield said a stall on the markets would be an ideal way for entrepreneurs to test their products on consumers.

The mayor was speaking during a visit to the town's indoor and outdoor markets by Adam Corbally, a semi-finalist on BBC TV's The Apprentice and a former market trader.

The mayor said he viewed the market as a 'great opportunity' to new businesses to find their feet.

He encouraged local people to follow the example of Mr Corbally, who as well as working as a market trader has forged a career as a professional guest speaker, motivational coach and serial entrepreneur, managing a series of successful businesses and brands in the UK.

Awards

Cllr Schofield said: "Oswestry market is an important asset to the town and it is great to have Adam Corbally here."

"He is an inspiration to people looking to start up in business. The market is a good place for start-up businesses."

"A stall gives people the chance to test the water and see if it works."

"If it doesn't work they can try something different or change what they do."

Mr Corbally presented Oswestry market with the awards for Best Local Council Market during his visit.

The town won the award at a ceremony in Birmingham in February after impressing judges in the national competition organised by the National Association of British Market Authorities.

Mr Corbally, who still works at his fruit and veg market stall in Glossop two days a week, said the expertise and help offered by the market traders often made shopping at markets a more enjoyable



Adam Corbally having his hair cut by Lucy Cookson, owner of Hair by Lucy at the indoor market.

experience that supermarkets. But he said like any business, the markets had to keep evolving.

He said: "You have to keep up with the needs of your consumers and keep changing. What we need is the next generation of market traders and the next generation of market customers to come

through." During his walk around the market Mr Corbally chatted to various stallholders and even had time for a quick sit down in the barber's chair at a recently opened hair salon in the market. Lucy Cookson, who opened the hair salon three weeks ago, said: "It was great to see him here. I only opened recently



The indoor market in Oswestry. Pictures: Ian Sheppard.

but things are going well and I am already building up my regulars."

"The market is a good place to work from."

As well as meeting market traders, Mr Corbally also had the chance to pass his expertise on to young entrepreneurs in Oswestry. He gave presentation to pupils

from Oswestry School, the Marches School and Walford and North Shropshire College.

His visit tied in with Love Your Local Market fortnight, a national event to raise the profile of markets and encourage business start-ups, particularly from young people.



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NEWS

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Boss joins football legend for challenge

A MANAGING director from Mid Wales is joining football legend Bryan Robson as the pair step up to a mountainous charity challenge.

Martin Thomas runs Britannia Thomas Casserlys, a family removals and storage business at Gledrid Industrial Estate, near Oswestry. He will climb Kilimanjaro, with his wife Amanda's cousin, the former England and Manchester United captain.

The former football star has enlisted 20 fundraisers for a week-long trek up the highest mountain in Africa.

The gruelling trip will raise vital funds for Francis House, The Christies and Unicef - worthy charities supported by the Man U Foundation. Bryan wants to raise £100,000 pounds.

For his part, Martin needs to raise £4,175 pounds, but is setting his sights high at £5,000.

He said: "After completing half and full marathons, this seemed the biggest and ultimate challenge."

Martin is busy fundraising and collecting sponsors to help him reach his target.

An evening of fun, dining and entertainment will be held at The Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry on June 29.

Tickets are £30 per person or £300 for a table of 10.

For details call Amanda Thomas on (01691) 662254.

Shop launch breathes new life into town's old cinema

ONE of Oswestry's landmark buildings has been brought back into use - with council chiefs hoping the move will signal an upturn in the town's fortunes.

The YMCA charity has taken up a temporary lease at the former Regal Cinema building in Leg Street.

The cinema closed in 1994 and most recently the building was used by the Seconds Ahead fashion store before it shut down.

Bosses at the YMCA store said they were delighted to have brought the historic building back into use and said they had been overwhelmed by the response from the Oswestry public after the new business opened its doors for the first time on Wednesday.

Julie Vaughan, shop support worker, said: "We have been blown away by the response. It took us more than five weeks to get the place ready."

"When I first came here and saw the building I just thought 'wow, what a fantastic building'."

"It is something very unusual to be working from an old cinema building."

"We have not changed anything as far as the structure is concerned so if we move out and anyone wanted to use the building after us everything has been left the same."

"We have a temporary

by Iain St John

lease here which means we will move out if somebody else wants to move in.

"Hopefully we can stay for a long time because I think we will do well here."

"We have been meeting the Oswestry public for the first time and they have been absolutely fantastic, really polite and very supportive to us."

Oswestry mayor Martin Bennett said he was pleased to see the landmark building brought back into use.

He said: "Empty buildings are an eyesore on the High Street."

"I would sincerely hope this does signal better times for the town."

Meanwhile a steering group is being set up to take forward ambitious long term plans to convert the former cinema into a multi-purpose entertainment venue.

Campaigners hope to buy the building, which could cost up to £500,000.



Rob Thomas and Julie Vaughan of the new YMCA shop in Oswestry celebrating its opening. Picture: Peter Shah.

Film fans can get their fix at centre

FILM fans in Oswestry who are waiting for the town's new multiscreen cinema to be built as part of a £45 million planning deal can enjoy a different kind of cinematic experience in the meantime.

A state-of-the-art five-screen Cineworld will be built at the town's Smithfield livestock site in Shrewsbury Road as part of a package which will also see a Morrisons store built.

But film enthusiasts who can't wait for the picture house to be built can get their fix through a new project in the town centre.

The People's Film Collective (PFC) allows amateur film makers to show off their talents on a regular basis.

The project was launched at The Ironworks and plans are being made for similar events in the future.

Kate Clarke, from the group, said: "After bringing digital cinema to the Attfield Theatre, Kinokulture, together with creative group Eclectic, have launched a new and experimental film viewing experience at the Ironworks, to a very enthusiastic reception."

"The People's Film Collective drew amateur film makers from around the Marches to share their work at a screening forum best described as 'pop-up cinema meets DIY film'."

The next event will be in September.

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NEWS

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Chamber ensemble will play at festival

BRITAIN'S longest running chamber music ensemble will be performing at a festival near the Shropshire/Welsh border.

The Llanyfyllin Music Festival will see the Allegri Quartet playing four concerts at St Myllin's Church.

Organisers say early bird tickets are available at the low price of £14 until the end of May.

Festival co-chairman Margaret Clennett said: "The Allegri Quartet is Britain's longest-running chamber music ensemble, sustained over six decades by successive generations of the finest international performers."

"Formed in 1953, one of its founders, William Pleeth, went on to teach Jacqueline du Pré. As part of their Diamond Jubilee season they are playing a week-long series of concerts in Switzerland, where their violinist, Dot Vogel, was born."

"We at Llanyfyllin have the benefit of a preview - four Beethoven quartets, one at each concert."

"Coinciding with the festival is the release of the Allegri's latest CD."

The concerts will take place on June 28 and 30 and July 5 and 7 at 7.30pm.

Ticket prices per concert are £16 for adults, £15 for concessions and £14 for the early bird offer booked by May 30. Visit www.llanyfyllinfestival.org.uk

Village plans for 69 homes raise fears over traffic chaos

MORE than two dozen residents have lodged objections to plans to build 69 homes in a village near Oswestry amid fears the development will cause traffic chaos.

But agents for the plans for Morda have also contacted Shropshire Council to deny allegations the plans will create a dangerous 'rat run'.

The outline planning application for land off Kingfisher Way has been submitted by Mr and Mrs Hughes of Llanyfyllin Hall, Selattyn, and as well as bringing nine affordable homes to the village it would also include a £440,000 payment to the area's parish council for community infrastructure improvements, if permission is granted.

But members of Oswestry Rural Parish Council oppose the scheme, saying it is outside the existing village boundary.

And nearly 30 residents have now also voiced their concerns in letters to Shropshire Council.

Objector Gwyn Lewis said: "These plans are planning to move the boundaries of Morda, extending it to squeeze in at least 69 more houses, and creating utter chaos and devastation for those living in the area and put a huge strain on the already buckling services the village has when there are already numerous plots within Morda ready to build on."

Recent

"If there is such a huge demand to create more homes within the village would it not be sensible to use these pockets for smaller and more suitable developments rather than simply build out into the surrounding greenbelt without thought of the consequences?"

Objectors Terry and Rachel Jones said: "The village of Morda has already seen a number of new developments over recent years and there are two new local plans already agreed."

"There is not enough infrastructure to cope with another large development."

The nature reserve opposite Kingfisher Way was developed to conserve wildlife, and

by Iain St John

this will be put at risk with heavy through traffic."

And objector Martyn Bentley said he was concerned how the proposal would affect the flood plains around the village.

But Penny Stephan from agents Les Stephan Planning Ltd has also contacted Shropshire Council to address residents' concerns that the proposed development, which will be created using land currently used for agricultural fields, would create a 'rat run' in Morda.

Miss Stephan said: "We have noted that a number of residents are referring to a 'rat run' situation that will arise from this development."

"We wish to clarify that this will not be the case."

"Vehicular access from Kingfisher Way will only service the first western field."

"Vehicular access from Weston Road, via the recently approved Severnside affordable housing scheme, will service the remaining three fields."

"The two eastern fields are only connected by a pedestrian link."

"Therefore, the site can not be used as a rat run and has been designed to avoid any such scenario."

Shropshire Council hope to make a decision on the application by July 12.

Fond farewell for cadet supporters



Alan and Anne Howls being presented with their awards by Officer commanding Pilot Officer Hugh Higley and Corporal Will Evans and Corporal Harry Mooney.

A YOUTH organisation is looking for new recruits, young and old, to fill its ranks.

The 1165 squadron, Oswestry Air Training Corps is for teenagers and young men and women aged 13 years and over.

Members take part in flying, adventure and sports activities.

Civilian instructor, Rob Evans, said the squadron, in Willow Street, is on the lookout for new cadets.

"We go flying regularly through the RAF and this is free for the young people. The flying is in gliders or in light aircraft."

"We also take part in field activities at the military training camp in Nesscliffe and get involved in many other events."

Recently the squadron's civilian committee said goodbye to its chairman and treasurer, Alan and Anne Howls.

Mr Howls has been with the squadron for 20 years with his wife involved for 15 years.

Mr Evans said: "As a token for their hard work and effort they were presented with an engraved brandy bottle and glassware."

He said the squadron would welcome new civilian committee members.

Anyone wanting more information can e-mail 1165@aircadets.org or telephone 01691 650022. The squadron building is open every Tuesday and Friday evening from 6.45pm to 9.30pm.

New bus service is launched in area

A NEW dial-a-bus service is to be launched by an Oswestry charity to serve people living in a remote part of Mid Wales.

Qube Dial-a-ride has set up the new transport link thanks to Welsh Assembly Government funding, which will run from the Llanyfyllin and Dolanog areas to Welshpool and Newtown.

The service will run on Mondays and Fridays as a 'ring-and-ride' service.

Laurel Roberts, chief officer at The Qube, said: "This is a crucial service for people living in this area and we are very pleased to be able to provide this transport."

"Qube Dial-a-ride has 20 years' experience of providing community transport and we know how important these services are to people."

"All journeys need to be booked by calling Qube Transport on (01691) 671571 at least 24 hours in advance."

She said there would also be a Dial-a-ride service in the area, providing door-to-door transport. She added: "This is bookable in advance and membership of Dial-a-ride is required."

For more information about the services, membership and to book a journey, call Qube on (01691) 671571, e-mail info@qube-oca.org.uk or visit www.qube-oca.org.uk



Events throughout June celebrating the best of Shrewsbury College students through music, fashion, drama and media.






Performance 'Spring Awakening': Theatre Severn

- Wednesday 5 June, 7.30pm (£7.50)
- Thursday 6 June, 1.30pm and 7.30pm (£7.50)

(This show is only appropriate for those aged 15 and over)

Performing Arts End of Year Showcase: Theatre Severn

- Wednesday 12 June, 7.30pm (£7.50)
- Thursday 13 June, 1.30pm (schools only) and 7.30pm (£7.50)

End of Year Art Show 'Emerge': School of Art, London Road

- Wednesday 19 June - Friday 21 June, 10am-3.30pm
- Saturday 22 June, 10am-3.00pm
- Monday 24 June - Thursday 27 June, 10am-3.30pm

Fashion Show 'Emerge': Theatre Severn

- Thursday 20 June, 7.30pm (£7)
- Friday 21 June, 1.15pm (schools only) and 7.30pm (£7)

Ticket Sales 01743 281281 (Theatre Severn Box Office)

Schools contact 01743 342344 for tickets

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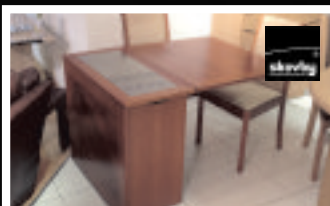
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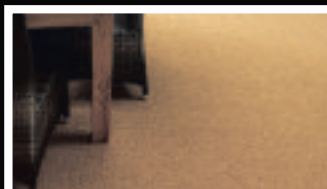
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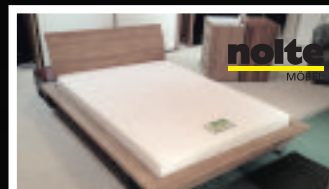
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FINANCE

New firm offers tips on keeping your cash safe

Advertisement feature



Jason Tyler

WITH 19 years' experience in the financial services industry Jason Tyler has set up a new business at Whittington, near Oswestry.

Jason Tyler Financial Planning has been launched in partnership with the prestigious St James Place Wealth Management.

Mortgage enquiries

A LAW firm says it has seen an increase in private mortgage enquiries as more and more parents help their grown-up children to get a step on the property ladder.

GHP Legal, which has an office in Oswestry, says there has been a marked increase in enquiries for setting up private mortgages.

Property experts at GHP Legal believe the increase is a sign of the times, with people using spare capital to help relatives.

Victoria Hibbert, a solicitor with GHP said: "If people are considering setting up a private mortgage they should make sure they have proper legally binding documentation drawn up."

"Because even when someone is acting as mortgagee for a close relative, it is still advisable to have protection in case the borrower's circumstances change."

"My background is almost entirely in financial services with the past 19 years being spent with a well-known high street bank covering many local areas within Shropshire and north Wales," said Mr Tyler.

"With many financial institutions no longer offering financial advice it seemed the perfect time to offer this service as an associate partner with such a trusted brand in St James Place Wealth Management."

"Unfortunately due to time constraints, I left the bank without being able to thank my many customers who I have dealt with over the years forging some very strong relationships with and now is the perfect time to do this."

Mr Tyler said he is offering a bespoke service in protection, pensions, savings and investments.

He can be contacted at Jason Tyler Financial Planning, The Fort, Artillery Business Park, Whittington, Oswestry, SY11 4AD. Call (01691) 664260 or 07583-089671.

Loans help on hand



Anna Breeze is welcomed by Richard Ellis at Town & Country.

A NEW mortgage adviser has started work at Town & Country Estate Agents in Oswestry.

Anna Breeze, an independent mortgage broker at Prudent Financial Planning Services of Oswestry, is now based in the company's Willow Street office.

Richard Ellis, proprietor at Town & Country said: "With an in house mortgage adviser, we'll be able to offer our clients independent advice about hundreds of lenders in one place. This service will complement our quality local estate agency proposition with quality local independent mortgage advice. We welcome enquiries from all member of the public as well as clients."

Anna can provide a comprehensive service including remortgages, equity release, first time buyers and buy to lets.

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↑ Property



Extended five-bed house stands in large gardens

A recently extended five-bedroom detached house set in a third of an acre of gardens has come on to the market with Town & Country. Number 7 Glentworth Avenue, Oswestry, is for sale priced at £365,000. With gas central heating and double glazing, the well-presented accommodation comprises an entrance hall, shower room, lounge with fireplace and living flame gas fire, sitting room with fireplace, dining area, sun room, play room, and spacious kitchen with built-in oven and hob.

A utility, inner hallway and study complete the ground floor. Upstairs, the master bedroom includes a wet room and a dressing area. There are four further bedrooms, three with ensuite shower rooms, and a family bathroom. front garden and parking, rear garden and garage/storage. To the front the gardens are lawned and shrubbed. There is a brick paved driveway with off-road parking, a pathway to the side of the house and a wrought iron gate leading to the

rear garden from the left, while from the right there is a wooden gate. The extensive rear garden is a particular feature of the property, offering plenty of privacy. There is a paved patio and decked area suitable for entertaining with sockets and lighting, plus a lawn beyond with an ornamental pond and established borders. To the side is a gravelled area with raised vegetable plots. To view, call Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit www.townandcountryoswestry.com



Delightful rural cottage has a detached annexe

Castle View, Ellesmere Road, St Martins, is a two-bedroom cottage with a detached annexe and outbuildings, all set in a third of an acre of gardens. Being within walking distance of the village centre, it is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson priced at £250,000. It has a porch, dining room, lounge, kitchen, sun room, utility, two bedrooms, bathroom, gas central heating and majority double glazing. The annexe is currently used as an additional ensuite bedroom. There is also an office building, double garage and workshop plus formal and vegetable gardens. For further information contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Traditional family semi in pleasant cul-de-sac

On the market with Halls for £179,950, number 26 Oak Drive, Oswestry, is an immaculate 1930s semi-detached family home with spacious accommodation in a pleasant cul-de-sac location. With gas central heating and double glazing, it has a porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, three bedrooms (two double), bathroom, garage, parking and gardens. For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsestateagents.co.uk



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Halls



Mardy Farm House, Hengoed
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Holyhead Road, Llangollen

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Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry

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Price: £349,950
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Cae-Twm, Old Chirk Road, Gobowen

Price: £224,950

Contact Oswestry

A lovely detached three bedroom bungalow with South facing gardens situated in a popular residential area.

- 3 Bedroom
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White House, Kinnerley

Price: £399,950

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Old Bradford Cottage, Knockin

Price: £274,950

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This charming village cottage which dates back to 1650 offers charm and character in each room.

- 3 Double Bedrooms
- 2 Receptions & Superb Dining Kitchen
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- Current EPC Rating F



The Croft, Whittington

Price: £205,000

Contact Oswestry

A two bedroom dormer bungalow with extensive gardens and parking located in the popular village of Whittington.

- 2 Bed Dormer Bungalow
- Gas Central Heating
- Extensive Gardens
- Ample Parking
- Sought After Village



Balmoral Crescent, Oswestry

Price: £164,950

Contact Oswestry

This DETACHED three bedroom family home is situated within a sought after residential area at the head of a cul de sac.

- 3 Bedroom Detached
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking For Two Vehicles
- Current EPC Rating D



Castell Cottage, Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant

Price: £234,950

Contact Oswestry

A charming, distinctive and unique detached cottage offering immaculately presented accommodation benefiting from panoramic views of the Tanat Valley and surrounding countryside.

- 2/3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Workshop, Car Port & Parking
- Unspoilt Picturesque Location
- Positioned On A Quiet Country Lane
- Superb Gardens
- Current EPC Rating F



Whitefriars, Oswestry

Price: £149,950

Contact Oswestry

A three bedroom semi detached family home which has been excellently maintained and is situated on a corner plot with large side garden, garage, two reception rooms and three bedrooms.

- 3 Bedroom
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage & Parking
- Corner Plot
- Current EPC Rating D



Walnut Cottage, Hengoed

Price: £94,950

Contact Oswestry

A charming semi detached cottage situated down a country lane in a most sought after hamlet. Only a short drive to the A5 and A483 and to Oswestry Town Centre.

- 2 Bedroom Cottage
- Solid Fuel Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Refitted Kitchen (2009)
- New Bathroom (Installed 2013)



Alma Close, West Felton

Price: £274,950

Contact Oswestry

A well designed executive family home offering spacious accommodation which is in excellent decorative order

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Receptions & Conservatory
- Oil CH & UPVC DG
- Double Garage & Parking
- Landscaped Gardens
- Current EPC Rating



Aspen Grange, Weston Rhyn

Price: £174,950

Contact Oswestry

A three bedroom detached family home situated in a popular residential area with views to the hills in the distance.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Receptions & Conservatory
- Garage & Parking
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Current EPC Rating D



Criggion Close, Four Crosses

Price: £199,950

Contact Oswestry

A most well presented three bedroom detached bungalow with a lovely conservatory in a cul-de-sac position in a popular semi rural location needing to be viewed to be appreciated.

- 3 Bedroom Bungalow
- Oil CH & UPVC DG
- Private Rear Garden
- Open Countryside Views
- Single Garage & Parking
- Current EPC Rating D



Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech

Price: £364,950

Contact Oswestry

An immaculate South facing detached family home in excellent decorative order throughout with views to the Breidden Hills in the distance.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- LPG Gas CH & DG
- NHBC Guarantee

Head Office 01743 450700
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Kidderminster 01562 820880

Shrewsbury Auction Centre 01743 462620
Ellesmere 01691 622602
Welshpool 01938 555552

Shrewsbury 01743 236444
Oswestry 01691 670320
Whitchurch 01948 663230

Associated Office at Worcester 01905 611066



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Halls



The Old Vicarage, Kinnerley

A fine example of an early Victorian family home with Georgian influences. This property boasts charm and sophistication in each room with retaining original features complimented by tasteful decor.

- 6 Bedroom
- 3 Reception & Conservatory
- Double Garage & Parking
- Sits In Approx One Acre
- Stable Block

Price: £675,000

Contact Oswestry



Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry

Located in a most prestigious and sought after area, Yearsley is a most well presented five bedroom detached family home offering well proportioned accommodation in excellent decorative order.

- 5 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 4 Reception & Open Plan Kitchen / Family Room
- Gas CH & DG
- Extensive Gardens
- Viewing Highly Recommended
- Current EPC Rating E

Price: £475,000

Contact Oswestry



Paddock Cottage, Nantmawr

A beautifully appointed and attractively designed modern detached country house with landscaped gardens having mature trees, hedges and shrubs, adjoining paddock and detached outbuilding, set in APPROXIMATELY TWO ACRES of hillside grazing.

- 3 Bed (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens, Orchard & Paddock
- Outbuilding
- Parking

Price: £329,000

Contact Oswestry



Brook House, Oswestry

Price: £169,950

Contact Oswestry

Dating back to 1900 with a later addition a detached country cottage situated adjacent to the River Morda with countryside views to the side elevation.

- 3 Bed Detached Cottage
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Private Gardens & Ample Parking
- Adjacent To River Morda
- Countryside Views
- Current EPC Rating F



Peach Tree House, Monfa, Llansilin

Price: £179,950

Contact Oswestry

Dating back to 1860 this DETACHED family home offers spacious accommodation.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Countryside Walks
- Oil Central Heating
- Character Features
- Current EPC Rating F



Hawthorn Close, St Martins

Price: £139,950

Contact Oswestry

A deceptively spacious two bedroom semi detached bungalow situated in a quiet cul-de-sac position in the most popular village of St Martins.

- 2 Bed Bungalow
- Quiet Cul De Sac
- Large Conservatory
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Parking & Gardens
- Current EPC Rating C



Aspen Grange, Weston Rhyn

Price: £189,950

Contact Oswestry

A four bedroom detached village family home within walking distance to village amenities, popular primary school and excellent bus links.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Areas
- Gas CH & DG
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Viewing Recommended



Balmoral Crescent, Oswestry

Price: £210,000

Contact Oswestry

This extended detached family home offers spacious and adaptable accommodation which is warmed by gas fired central heating and the property benefits from double glazing.

- 4/5 Bedroom (Potential Annex)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Gardens
- Parking
- Gas CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating D



Oak Drive, Oswestry

Price: £179,950

Contact Oswestry

This immaculate 1930's three bedroom semi detached family home offers spacious accommodation and is situated in a pleasant cul de sac location.

- 3 Bed (2 Double)
- 2 Reception & Conservatory
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Gas CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating E



Pyllau Gwyddau, Llanrhaeadr

Price: £285,000

Contact Oswestry

Dating back to the 1700's this detached South Facing cottage benefits from lovely views and is situated on a quiet country lane a few miles from Llanrhaeadr. The cottage offers character and charm throughout. The property is warmed by oil fired central heating which is complemented by the solar photovoltaics panels and benefits from double glazing. The cottage gardens are a notable feature of the property with babbling brook and views to Craig Orllwyn Hill.

- Reception Hall/Utility Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room, Lounge
- First Floor Landing
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Gardens & Grounds



Station Road, Whittington

Price: £159,950

Contact Oswestry

An immaculate semi detached Victorian family home offering spacious accommodation with parking carport/garage and garden

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Updated By Current Vendor
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage / Carport & Parking
- Garden & Patio Area
- Current EPC Rating E



Corner Shop, Llanfyllin

A highly successful and probate newsagents, tobacconists and general stores situated in a town centre location and being sold with extensive and adaptable living accommodation.

- Large Shop Area
- 8 Bed Living Accommodation
- 2 Bathrooms
- Rear Courtyard, Storage
- Village Location

Price: Region £275,000

Contact Oswestry

OC3254



View Cottage, Llanymynech

Price: £285,000

Contact Oswestry

This cottage benefits from magnificent views over the English/Welsh borderland to The Breidden Hills and across to the Shropshire Plain. Nestled on the side on Llanymynech Hill this property is a walkers dream with many routes and trails across unspoilt countryside, Offas Dyke or Montgomery Canal.

- 3 Double Bed Cottage
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Sits In Approx 0.65 Of An Acre
- Countryside Views
- 3 Timber Sheds & Summerhouse
- Current EPC Rating E



The Old Mill, Penybont

Price: £375,000

Contact Oswestry

Idyllically situated within the picturesque Tanat Valley, set well back of the passing road and enjoying South facing landscaped gardens a unique stone built former mill standing in grounds of approx 1/2 acre.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- 2 Conservatories
- Double Garage & Parking
- Idyllic Rural Location
- Approx 1/2 Acre
- Pond & Fishing Rights

Head Office 01743 450700
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Kidderminster 01562 820880

Shrewsbury Auction Centre 01743 462620
Ellesmere 01691 622602
Welshpool 01938 555552

Shrewsbury 01743 236444
Oswestry 01691 670320
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NEW - NO CHAIN

Park Avenue
Oswestry £274,950

- A rare opportunity to purchase a double fronted Victorian Property believed to date from 1888 that has been sympathetically restored to a high standard to provide a spacious family home.
- The property also has benefits from a Detached Annex which has a host of future uses. Set on the fringe of the Town Centre
- Porch, Reception Hall, Cellar, Sun Room, Sitting Room, Living Room, Dining Room, Breakfast Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloaks
- Whilst on the first floor there are Four Double Bedrooms and Family Bathroom. Good Size Gardens & Gas C/H. EPC Rating D



NEW

Ellesmere Road
St. Martins £250,000

- A rare opportunity to purchase a charming period 2 Bedroom Cottage with Detached Annex and Outbuildings all set in 1/3 acre of gardens
- Porch, Dining Rm, Lounge, Kitchen, Sun Rm, Utility Room and 2 Bedrooms & Bathroom on the 1st floor, Gas C/H and majority double glazing
- The Annex is currently used as an additional bedroom (with en-suite) together with an additional Office Building, Double Garage & Workshop.
- Surrounded by formal and vegetable gardens. EPC Rating E



NEW

Blackfriars
Oswestry £184,500

- A deceptively spacious Detached Bungalow situated in a mature residential
- The current owners have extended the property to create a spacious family home with a large private garden and flexible accommodation
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Dining Room and adjoining Side Lobby, Inner Hallway leading to 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Large Conservatory and Utility Room/WC
- Large driveway together with lawned gardens to the rear and a large patio. Gas C/H & D.G. EPC Rating D



NEW - NO CHAIN

Lower Minster
Oswestry £160,000

- A well positioned Detached Family Bungalow situated in a most popular area and convenient to all facilities in the town
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Sitting Room with Sunshine Window, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room.
- Double glazing, electric heating, single garage, delightful lawned and shrubbed gardens to both fore and rear. EPC Rating F



NEW

Baytree Close
St. Martins £118,995

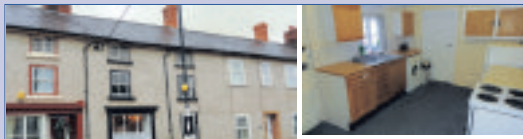
- A comfortably appointed and well positioned Semi-Detached Residential Dwelling House situated in a short cul-de-sac within the centre of the village being convenient to all facilities
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Sun Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Majority double glazing, gas fired central heating cavity wall insulation, delightful gardens to fore and rear, ample parking for several vehicles. EPC Rating C



NEW - NO CHAIN

Berwyn Villas
Oswestry £104,995

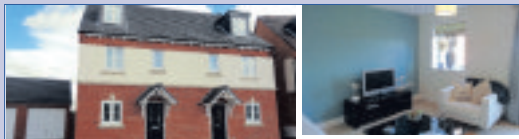
- This immaculate and beautifully presented end-of-terrace cottage style property has been beautifully and sympathetically renovated.
- The property benefits further from sealed unit double glazing, oak stripped flooring to the hall, lounge and dining room, gas fired central heating, off-street parking and good size south facing rear garden.
- Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen, 2 Excellent Bedrooms, Bathroom. EPC Rating E



NEW - NO CHAIN

Bradford Terrace
Llanymynech £99,995

- A deceptively spacious 5 Bedroom, Grade II Listed Mid-Terrace Property situated in the popular village of Llanymynech
- The property is in need of some modernization works but has the potential to create a truly unique home. The property also has a host of original features
- Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, 3 Bedrooms on the first floor and 2 Further Bedrooms on the second floor
- The property has a small courtyard, parking area to the rear and Workshop



Wat's Meadow
Gobowen

- A mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes constructed by Fletcher Homes situated on the exclusive Wats Meadow development close to the centre of the popular village of Gobowen and the A5/A483.
- The properties have been constructed to the highest of specification and have the benefit of a 10 Year NHBC Guarantee.
- All properties have a minimum of parking spaces and or garage. Good size rear gardens
- Predicted Energy Assessment B.
- ...HELP TO BUY SCHEME AVAILABLE ON THIS PROPERTY...



NEW PRICE

Ardleen
Nr Welshpool £349,995

- A most comfortably appointed and spacious Modern Detached Residence only twelve years old, built to very high standards
- Storm Porch, Large Reception Hall, Cloaks, Study, Spacious Lounge, Sitting Rm, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, First Floor Landing
- Master Bedroom & Guest Bedroom (both en-suite), Two Further Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- LPG gas central heating, high security double glazing, intruder alarm, double garage & ample parking on a sweeping graveled driveway. EPC Rating D

Collective Property Auction

Lion Quays Hotel, Moreton, Oswestry, 2:00pm

Entries are now being invited for our Property Auction in September 2013
For more information please call any of our offices.

WREXHAM Frith LOT 1 Guide Price Over £60,000

AUCTION

- Terraced Stone Built Cottage
- Requires Modernisation & Refurbishment
- Comprises, Living Room, Dining, Kitchen,
- 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gardens with adjoining Brook
- EPC Rating E

WREXHAM Brynteg LOT 2 Guide Price Over £50,000

AUCTION

- Stone-built Detached bay fronted property
- Smoke damage to upper rooms
- Two bedrooms one en-suite
- Gas C/H, D/G
- Cellar and out offices
- Rear Garden
- EPC Rating F

GRESFORD High Street LOT 3 Guide Price £60,000-£70,000

AUCTION

- In need of modernisation
- One Bedroom Terraced
- Close to all amenities
- Viewing Recommended
- EPC Rating E

WREXHAM Rhoslanerchrugog LOT 4 Guide Price Over £60,000

AUCTION

- Modernised Village Property
- Semi-Detached, 2 Bedrooms
- Garden with out-offices
- Rear Yard with Store
- Ideal first Home/Investment
- No Chain
- EPC Rating D

LLANGOLLEN Froncysyllte LOT 5 Guide Price £45,000

AUCTION

Within the village of Froncysyllte occupying a garden extending to approximately 0.2 acres or thereabouts this property provides great potential for extension (subject to consent) and refurbishment.

LLANGOLLEN Froncysyllte LOT 6 Guide Price £50,000

AUCTION

Site extending to an area of approximately 0.45 acres this property comprises a detached bungalow, which has had (commenced but never completed) planning permission for a substantial extension to the rear.

WREXHAM Rhosyllten LOT 7 Guide Price £95,000 to £75,000

AUCTION

- With scope for modernisation and improvement
- Enclosed rear yard and long garden
- Parking to the front
- Viewing Recommended
- EPC Rating E

CHIRK Chirk Bank LOT 8 Guide Price Over £150,000

AUCTION

- A rare opportunity to purchase a Detached Country Cottage
- Situated next to the Shropshire Union Canal
- Overlooking the River Ceirlog
- Gardens extending to 0.5 acre
- In need of some modernisation works. EPC Rating G

CHESTER Penyffordd LOT 9 Guide Price Over £350,000

AUCTION

- Residential smallholding in much sought after location.
- Range of farm buildings.
- 20.63 acres (8.33 ha) of land.
- Extensive views over Cheshire plains.
- EPC Rating F.

CHESTER Penyffordd LOT 10 Guide Price Over £200,000

AUCTION

- 25.30 acres (10.22 ha) of accommodation land.
- Generally in good heart.
- One ring fenced block.
- Natural water supply.

CHESTER Penyffordd LOT 11 Guide Price Over £100,000

AUCTION

- 12.60 acres (5.09 ha) of accommodation land.
- Generally in good heart.
- One ring fenced block.
- Suitable for agricultural, equine and residential purchasers alike.

CHIRK Pontfries LOT 12 Guide Price Over £150,000

AUCTION

- Character Detached Cottage
- Delightful Rural Location
- Living Room, Dining Room
- Sitting Room, Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gardens to Front & Rear
- Double Garage With Parking
- EPC Rating E

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homes ON VIEW



Four-bedroom detached house in scenic riverside position

Min-y-dwr, in the village of Llanyblodwel, near Oswestry, is a beautifully appointed family house standing in an enviable position next to the River Tanat.

The four-bedroom detached property is on the market with agents Woodhead Estates, who are seeking offers in the region of £379,950.

With character features throughout, it has an open plan kitchen/living/dining area, dining room/sitting room, utility, four bedrooms, one ensuite, family bathroom, off-road parking and attractive gardens.

For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com



Spacious country home offers paddocks and stable block

The Paddocks, City Lane, Hengoed, Oswestry, is a delightful rural property with spacious living accommodation, in well maintained grounds with stabling for four horses, a three bay barn, and two grazing fields in all around 6.55 acres. It is for sale priced at £475,000 with no chain.

With oil central heating it has a conservatory, reception hall, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, rear entrance, cloakroom, long inner hallway, master bedroom, two further ground floor bedrooms, bathroom, separate wc, first floor bedroom four/study, loft space, drive with parking and turning area and a garage.

For further information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk



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We'd love you to join us for Champagne & Afternoon Tea, and on the day there will be an opportunity to enter our free prize draw for £50 John Lewis gift vouchers*. You can also view the beautifully furnished show apartments and communal areas, and find out how a McCarthy & Stone retirement apartment can help you enjoy a greater, later life.

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0800 201 4236

*Move for FREE is only available on selected apartments. We will provide you with written details. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Not available on Resale properties. † Open to anyone age 60 years or over who takes a guided tour of the show complex at Jebb Court with the sales consultant on 29th May 2013. Contact Jebb Court for further details.


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GREAT DAYS OUT

Action-packed adventure to fill half-term holiday

Advertisement feature

FUN, excitement and adventure is the May half-term holiday promise at Park Hall Countryside Experience, so if you are looking for an action packed day out with the kids this is the place to be.

Down on the farm there's lots of close contact with farmyard friends. Groom ponies, cuddle rabbits, hand milk a cow or visit the heavy horses, and take a tractor ride to see more of the farm.

In addition to the farmyard we're introducing a bit of May Madness in the form of spacehopper races and a truly off the wall Beat the Batsman Competition - did we say how big the bat is? But there are prizes for all who take part. These events are every day from May 25 to June 2.

The spring theme continues to enchant visitors with some gorgeous chicks and of course there are the cute lambs to bottle feed. For those of you who love the outdoors the woodland is full of bluebells, so bring your wellies for a walk.

The highlight of your day will undoubtedly be our pig racing events. At 12.30pm and 2.30pm each day, the well trained Kune Kune pigs will be trotting towards the finishing post for that ultimate prize - a trough of tasty pig nuts. See if you can pick the winner.

The two massive indoor playbarns at the farm ensure rain never stops play, that's the beauty of Park Hall there is so much to do under cover. Outdoors there are great adventure



Feed the lambs at Park Hall during half term.

courses and play activity sites. Don't forget the driving fun for kids at the driving school, the kids 4x4 Land Rover course and the brilliant Barrel Train ride.

And if you want to chill out from the action and adventure, take a while to browse the museums - The Welsh Guards Collection always has a retired Welsh Guard on hand to give you a tour, the Victorian school is fascinat-

ing, remember those old desks grandad? Also visit the Iron Age Roundhouse for a glimpse into pre Roman times.
A visit to Park Hall is a full, action packed day out for families; there's always a warm welcome guaranteed at this national award-winning farm attraction.
Visit www.parkhallfarm.co.uk or call (01691) 671123.

Half Term Adventures at Attingham Park

Half Term Trails: Sat 25 May - Sun 2 June, 10am - 5pm
Explore the grounds with a family trail, £2.50 per trail, includes small prize.

Hang out with a Hawk: Sat 25 May, 10am - 4pm
Get the school holidays off to a flying start and meet some stunning birds of prey. A flying display will take place at 2pm.

Morris Dancing Display: Mon 27 May, 11am - 2pm
Watch the Shrewsbury Morris Dancers perform in the Stables Courtyard. Performances at intervals throughout the day.

Trusty's Tuesday Club: Tue 28 May, 10am - 4pm
Become a wildlife tracking expert, £2.50 per child.

Trusty's Thursday Picnic: Thur 30 May, 11am - 2pm
Bring your picnic and rug and listen to our storyteller in the Stables Courtyard.

Standard admission charges apply.


You're never far away from us,
so come along for a visit

For more information call 01743 708162

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GREAT DAYS OUT

Fun-filled summer lined up to entertain visitors



Linda Jones, wife of the late Bob Jones, meets the Falcons parachute display team at last year's Welshpool Air Show.

Advertisement feature
THERE will be plenty on offer for visitors to Welshpool this weekend and throughout the summer months.

Welshpool is a lovely little town with an indoor market, which opens six days a week and an historic street market on Mondays.

The town centre has a wide range of shops with good car parking, free toilets and a fully networked Tourist Information Centre.

Welshpool attracts many events for people to enjoy during each year and 2013 will be no exception.

Advertisement feature

The town has already seen a successful canal triathlon and The Plains Car Rally last Saturday and next Monday sees the town's annual carnival.

On June 9 the annual Bob Jones Air Show returns with many displays including the Vulcan, Lancaster and Hurricane bombers along with a Spitfire and Typhoon.

Tickets are £5 per adult and £3 per child, a great day at a great price. Please see the advert in this issue.

On June 22 the town will enjoy an

Edwardian Garden Party at Powis Castle and on August 3 a charity walk for cancer.

For those who like dragons there is the Town Dragon Hunt – just call into the Tourist Information Centre to start.

Welshpool town clerk Robert Robinson said: "The town council has worked with any organisation who wishes to bring an event to the town."

"Anyone interested in coming to Welshpool can gain more information from the town clerk on 01938 553142 or through the web site at www.welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk."

Owen's Travelmaster

Day Excursions

		Adult	Senior	Child
Sat 26th May	Liverpool	£12.25	£11.25	£8.00
Sat 2nd June	Chester City Shopper	£10.25	£9.75	£7.00
Sat 2nd June	Chester Zoo	£22.75	£19.50	£16.75 Entry Inc
Mon 4th June	Rhyl, Colwyn Bay or Llandudno	£13.75	£12.50	£10.00
Tues 5th June	Windermere & the Lake District	£19.50	£17.50	£14.25
Wed 6th June	Snowdonia Mountain Railway	£29.50	£28.50	£22.00 Entry Inc
Wed 6th June	Trafford Centre	£13.00	£11.75	£8.50
Wed 6th June	Old Trafford Stadium Tour	£26.50	£20.75	£17.50 Entry Inc
Sun 10th June	Peak District Tour	£18.00	£16.75	£12.00
Sat 16th June	BBC Gardeners World & Good Food Show Live - NEC	£32.50	£30.50	£13.00 Entry Inc
Sun 17th June	Cosford Air Show	£23.50	£22.50	£20.00 Entry Inc
Wed 20th June	Leek Market & Dales	£15.50	£14.00	£11.00
Sun 24th June	Rhyl, Colwyn Bay or Llandudno	£13.75	£12.50	£10.00
Thurs 28th June	Southport	£14.50	£13.00	£10.00
Sat 30th June	Buckingham Palace & Diamond Exhibition	£43.50	£40.00	£27.50 Entry Inc
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Sun 15th July	Downton Abbey - Highclere Castle	£35.00	£31.50	£23.50 Entry Inc
Sat 21st July	Tatton Park Flower Show	£33.00	£32.00	£10.50 Entry Inc
Sun 22nd July	Barmouth	£12.75	£11.50	£8.50
Thurs 26th July	Royal Welsh Show - Builth Wells	£14.00	£12.50	£9.75
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BUSINESS

01691 668094

Help at hand to venture into growing your own

by Graham Breeze

SPRING has arrived, it's time to get growing in the garden and help is at hand at Oswestry Market.

There's nothing like growing your own, and on Friday, May 31, Oswestry Town Council is organising experienced gardeners who will demonstrate how to grow food at the Bailey Head, Oswestry, from 9am to 2pm.

Anyone new to gardening who would like to learn how to grow their own will be able to get free practical advice on everything from sowing seed to harvesting salad and vegetables.

You don't need a big garden, some plants can be grown in pots or grow bags on patios, balconies or even windowsills.

There will also be free demonstrations on how to plant up hanging baskets and pots, and flower arranging.

Compost

Shropshire Wildlife Trust will advise how to create a wildlife-friendly garden to attract butterflies and birds, and Shropshire Master Composters will provide tips on turning kitchen and garden waste into perfect garden compost.

Local nurseries will be selling a range of garden plants.

There will be lots of fun for children too. Children can try free seed planting and 'hunt the vegetable' with great prizes to be won. Other activities for children include flower arranging and face painting.

There will also be the monthly Farmers' Market to explore selling the best in fresh local produce of the highest quality from fresh pork and poultry to cakes and savouries.

For more information contact David Clough, Oswestry Town Council's events manager, on 01691 680222.

Training centre available



John Pittaway organising energy assessor training at the new centre.

BUSINESSES are being urged to make use of a new facility in Oswestry.

The Cambrian Business Training Centre, in the heart of Oswestry town centre, is offering training facilities for business users.

"The room comes complete with, laptop, projector, flip charts and full internet access. Drink making facilities are included in the hire price," said John Pittaway, who runs the business with his wife Rachel.

"Any business can hire the room, for whatever purpose they need it for, and the business is currently offering energy assessor training."

The room can cater for 12 in a classroom style or 30 in conference style, and can be fully "blackboxed".

For more information please contact: Cambrian Business Training Centre, 4 Arthur Street, Oswestry, SY11 1JP or call 01691 658197 or e-mail info@cbtc-os.co.uk

Advertisement feature

CAN I SET UP A PRIVATE MORTGAGE TO HELP MY DAUGHTER PURCHASE A HOME?

Q: My daughter has come back home after recently splitting with her boyfriend. They were saving for a house but on her own she does not have quite enough for a deposit and is unlikely to get a big enough mortgage based on her salary. I am in a position to buy a house for her, but I need a return on my money. Although I could just charge her rent I would prefer the house to be in her name. I am however conscious that I would need to protect my interest in the property as her circumstances could change in the future. Would formally setting up a private mortgage provide this protection?

A: Private mortgages are becoming quite common these days, particularly when it comes to parents helping children to get onto the property ladder. Utilising your capital in this way can also provide a better return for you in the current climate. And provided you have proper legal documentation drawn up which lays out clear terms for the loan, your interests will be protected in the event that anything untoward should happen.

You and your daughter can agree the terms of the mortgage between yourselves in respect of interest rates, repayment schedule, length of term etc, but it would be advisable for you each to appoint your own solicitor. Once you have agreed the terms, a draft deed would be drawn up by your solicitor who would then carry out the standard conveyancing procedure. This would involve checking title to the property and undertaking searches as appropriate to the transaction. When the conveyancing process is complete you would then lodge the loan monies in your solicitor's client account, ready to be passed to your daughter. It is a very straightforward procedure and therefore the costs involved should be kept to a minimum, whilst ensuring you are protected.

Further information relating to this question is available from Richard Lloyd, a Partner with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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BUSINESS

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Month spent reflecting in the glow of fabulous event

WITH little sign of summer on the horizon I have spent the last month reflecting in the warm glow of some of those fantastic businesses that were recognised in the Chronicle Business Awards.

As one of the sponsors of this fabulous event, Oswestry Chamber of Commerce was able to rub shoulders with some of the great local businesses who were being celebrated not just for surviving through an often challenging year but for thriving in their own significant way.

We saw businesses recognised for their role in the local community, for delivering outstanding customer service, for showing remarkable strength as independent retailers and for taking their first steps into the world of business as young entrepreneurs.

All of these things were being celebrated in our local community by those who simply took the time to nominate themselves for these business awards. They invested the time to do so and reaped the rewards.

Awards aren't just for 'the big boys', they provide a fantastic opportunity for



us all to highlight what we do well, to focus on what we are passionate about in business and to get that all important pat on the back for getting it right and we can all take part.

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce will be providing guidance on how to make the most of these opportunities to showcase your business in the awards arena. Be sure to visit our website for details of forthcoming meetings in which to find out more about becoming an award winning local business.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th June 2013 from 6pm to 8pm at The Wynnstey Hotel. Please contact Heather Noble on 01691 700800 if you would like to come along.

Heather Noble
Chairman
Oswestry Chamber of Commerce

Celebrations continue after centre's business awards win

by Graham Breeze

CELEBRATIONS have been continuing at the British Ironworks Centre after the company was named 'Community Champion' in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards.

The British Ironwork Centre is a family company passionate about the preservation and creation of quality metal work, in all its forms.

"This wonderfully diverse resource is the back bone of our business, and one that we as both a family and company have spent generations painstakingly creating, collecting, researching and reproducing," said managing director Clive Knowles.



The British Ironwork Centre is displaying their recognition in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards.

Private investigator links with firms

AN Oswestry-based private investigation firm has teamed up with two other of the town's businesses.

Paul Wiseman Investigations has formed a strategic alliance with GHP Legal Solicitors and Robinson Bailiff Services.

"This is an exciting addition to the services already available," said Mr Wiseman.

"As a result of this strategic association we can provide a one stop shop for clients who become victims of fraud."

"We have been totally taken aback by, firstly being shortlisted for the award and then delighted to receive the actual trophy."

"All staff were asked to take time away from their desks and work benches, the following morning to toast everyone involved and to enjoy a staff garden party."

Mr Knowles said the company will continue its efforts within the community and hopes to adopt many more tasks and projects this year.

And the company is offering any local charitable organisation, an open door to assist with support, wherever its possible.

Today (Thursday) there's the unveiling of the Jubilee Crown in Cae Glas Park, another creation gifted to the town from the British Ironworks, commenting the queens jubilee year.

To leave no-one in any doubt, British Ironwork Centre, has temporarily installed a banner, announcing their delight and pride, in serving Oswestry, at their main entrance of their head office.

An open day will be announced in the summer, for a community celebration day.

The centre is home to a collection of magnificent animal sculptures from the majestic Silver Back Gorilla, to an adorable assortment of Farmyard animals. There really is something for everyone.

New lease of life for golf club



Owner Paul Davies, outside The Boathouse.

A DISUSED golf club near Oswestry has been given a new lease of life.

The Chirk golf club went into administration last year.

Now the Boathouse restaurant and bar in its clubhouse has been reopened by the family running the marina business next door.

The Davies family say the business is already attracting local people and tourists, including those from narrowboats on the Llangollen canal a few hundred miles away. Members of the family have been involved in the canal boat hire business for over 30 years, successfully running the Crest Narrowboats and Black Prince hire fleets from Chirk Marina.

Paul Davies said that running a bar and restaurant was a new and exciting challenge.

And he said it had meant employing half a dozen new members of staff.

"Heading up the team with me are Deb Hutchinson, head chef Alan Crofts and bar manager Dave Burke who have a passion for delivering customer satisfaction."

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FEATURES & NEWS

01691 668094

Slimmers shed the pounds to raise cash

SLIMMERS have lost an astounding 106 stones and raised £1,200 for a Shropshire cancer appeal – in just six weeks.

Members of Slimming World classes in Chirk and Oswestry signed up to the challenge to lose pounds to gain pounds. All the cash went to the The Oswestry Bone Cancer Centre Appeal.

The fundraiser was organised by Slimming World consultant Jan Evans who ran the sponsored events at her classes in the two towns.

After just six weeks the slimmers had lost a combined total of 106 stones and they were delighted to be able to hand over a cheque for £1,200. The appeal is raising money to build a £2 million bone cancer centre at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Jan, who lives in Gobowen, said: "I'm so proud of how much they have raised. "Many of the group chose to raise funds for the new bone cancer centre because they have had personal experience of the hospital, either as a patient or have had a friend or relative been treated there."

Jan's Slimming World classes run on Monday at Chirk Methodist Chapel at 5pm and 7pm and in Oswestry at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday at 10am, 12pm, 5pm, 7pm. For details call (01691) 658323.

Predator and prey enjoyed the warm sun

THE job of a wildlife presenter is often quite boring, consisting of long spells of inactivity broken with brief spurts of speech, which usually needs to be filmed five or so times for one reason or another.

Of course, much of one's time is spent "presenting" the script in various locations before heading back to the recording booth and speaking the voice-over into a microphone.

However, occasionally something exciting does happen, and in my experience, this is precisely the time to rip up the aforementioned script, and start feverishly writing a new one to coincide with what the wildlife is doing.

Case in point; a couple of weeks ago I was on my way to film a piece on farmland wildlife for Shropshire's County Channel TV (county channel.tv). Myself and my cameraman and director, Geoff, were happily bumping along a farm track in North Shropshire, revising lines and deciding on the best locations to do our "pieces to camera". It was a dull day and there was little chance of hare activity. We met up with our friendly farmers and hosts for the afternoon and began our discussions. The script read and the interviews "in the bag", we packed up and left, planning to return the next morning in order to film some much-needed footage of wildlife for our wildlife programme.

Bright and early the next day we returned. Again, a dull start but then the clouds broke

ON THE WILD SIDE

with Ben Waddams



and the sun lit up the fields; and with it, came the wildlife. A hare emerged, then another and another. They began stretching and hopping about and as the sun warmed their bodies, they started to run and jump, scratch and chase – these were the proverbial 'Mad March Hares'...in May.

Then a flock of fieldfares descended on the scene. Fieldfares this late on is rather unheard of and so we filmed them eagerly, forgetting about the hares for a moment. Off to our right I noticed several Wheatears, charming little birds and something nice to catch on film. However, whilst we were busy with the birds, the activity of the hares had not gone unnoticed. A red fox approached, skulking along the hedgerow and toward the trio of lagomorphs.

Another fox then joined the first one and they both began stalking our hares. Geoff scarcely knew where to point the camera! Then a peculiar thing happened, which at first seemed like a bit of an anti-climax. The foxes stopped stalking and sat in the sun, simply warming themselves and now within plain sight of the hares who could not have been more than 30 yards away. If I had had to make a list of the top predators of a brown



Farmland Hare – oil on board – by Ben Waddams.

hare, a fox would be pretty near the top of it, yet here were predator and prey seemingly at ease with each other, for the hares continued their playful activity.

Then an image of some exotic savannah came to mind, herds of zebra and wildebeest trotting by a pride of lions, lazing in the sun – a mutual understanding between predator and prey. The foxes knowing they had little chance of catching such a fast and agile crea-

ture as a hare in broad daylight and the hares happily reassured that they were in complete control of the situation. Sometimes one has to kick one's self with the luck that comes along, whether it be in the form of a fox or a hare. The script however, did require a complete re-write!

You can see Ben's film online at www.waddams.webs.com or Google County Channel TV.

Design of homes to help stop criminals

NEW homes which are set to be built when a drug-hit housing estate is demolished should be designed in a way which helps prevent crime, police have said.

Plans have been lodged for the demolition of the Swan Lane flats in Oswestry after council bosses conceded that the area's reputation for anti-social problems was making it difficult to rent out the properties.

Applicant Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing wants to knock the 48 flats in Swan Lane down and replace them with 19 houses, 12 of which will be socially rented homes.

Stephen Loveridge, crime prevention design advisor for West Mercia Police, said he did not wish to formally object to the proposal.

Mr Loveridge said: "However there are opportunities to design out crime and/or the fear of crime and to promote community safety. I am pleased that the design and access statement clearly states that this development will be built to achieve Secured By Design accreditation on completion."

He added: "SBD is a nationally recognised award aimed at achieving a minimum set of standards in crime prevention for the built environment, the scheme has a proven track record in crime prevention and reduction."

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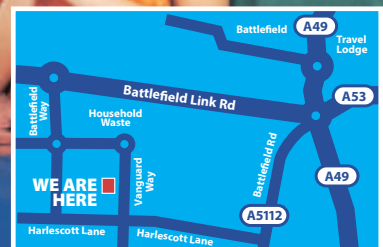


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FARMING

Keeping farmers up to date on machinery laws



Plenty of advice available as the silage season arrives.

WITH the time of year for silage fast approaching there's a chance for farmers to catch up on the current laws and safety issues of taking farm machinery on the road.

The NFU Oswestry Branch, together with the British Agricultural & Garden Machinery Association (BAGMA) and Hughes Bros machinery dealers, have organised an event at Hughes Bros machinery in Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry, at 6.30pm on June 4.

Adam Wyatt, from BAGMA, will carry out practical walk-around ses-

Advertisement feature

sions of machinery covering lighting, beacons, PTO shafts and brakes, efficiency, testing and maintenance.

Ben Ellis, NFU Regulatory Advisor from Stoneleigh, will hold a presentation and Q&A session on the use of red diesel, mud on roads, driver CPC, operator licence exemptions, use of telehandlers on the road and driving licences.

NFU Group Secretary for Oswestry Stuart Chacksfield and NFU Policy Advisor for Shropshire Helen Cork, along with staff from the local NFU office, will be on hand to discuss any queries and informing farmers of new

discounts available on tractor insurance. Hughes Bros staff will also be available to discuss any machinery queries farmers may have.

Mr Chacksfield said: "I hope many of our local farmers will attend this event, as I'm sure it will be a great evening for refreshing on the legalities of agricultural machinery on the roads and more importantly keeping our farmers, especially our younger farmers safe while doing so."

The event runs from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Hughes Bros, Smithfield Works, Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry, SY11 4JE.

Please call the NFU Oswestry office on (01691) 652120.



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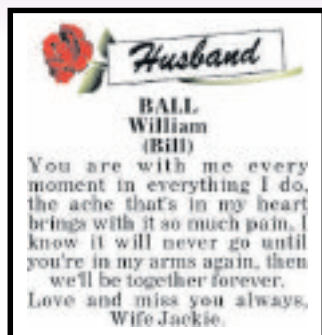
Of Holy Cross Residential
Home, on September 7, 2011,
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Brother of Jan.

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NOSTALGIA & NEWS

01691 668094

Tragic nurse killed in crash

Fairytales inspiring events at the castle

A VARIETY of events involving pumpkins, art, knights and princesses will take place during the half term holidays next week at a historic property near Oswestry.

A series of activities will be staged at Chirk Castle, near Oswestry. Families are invited to take part in the Great Pumpkin Plant on Sunday, where they can plant pumpkin seeds, watch them grow over the summer and come back to the castle in October to turn them into traditional lanterns to keep mischievous spirits away at Halloween.

A Wild and Wacky Art Day will take place on Monday. Visitors can become a wild artist and create their own bugs and beasts out of natural materials and they can help to make a 'wild' castle from natural goodies found on the estate.

Joanne Thompson, assistant visitor services manager, said: "Then on Thursday, May 30, the castle will be holding its ever popular Knights & Princesses Day."

"Queen Joanna will be inviting all bold knights and beautiful princesses to Chirk Castle for a day full of courtly adventure for all the family. The Knights & Princesses Day will include a Knights Quest for children to complete inside the castle and a trail in the gardens."



Nurses at Gobowen hospital in 1960 about to embark on their careers.

THESE young ladies were all lined up at Gobowen more than 50 years ago about to embark on their careers in nursing.

But for one of them, her dream was to be tragically curtailed, as she was killed in a car crash not long after this was taken.

The photo, which many of the nurses

by Toby Neal

have signed on the back, is in the possession of Peter Fletcher, who says it shows the nurses who qualified at the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Gobowen in the 1960 intake.

"My sister Rosemary Fletcher, who is seventh from top left, was killed in a car

crash at Battlefield, Shrewsbury, on July 20, 1960, at the age of 19, a short time after this picture was taken," he said. "She had just finished her final exams as a nurse."

Best

The signatures on the back are (and we've done our best with trying to read the handwriting): Kathleen A Ward, Wendy Hartland, Sallie Goodwin, B

Susan Hill, Patay M Grace, M Thomas, Christine M Stevens, Anne Darbyshire, Valerie A Woodhouse, Barbara Davies, Linda Taylor, Susan Storey, Anne Lloyd Roberts, Elaine E Ranby, Janet North, Valerie V Ford, DA Richards, Pauline Clayton, Jennifer Lloyd, Adeline Thurston, Ann Leighton, Tina Deacon, June A Gardner, Margaret A Jones, Megan Jones, Brenda V Gilbert, Dorothy

Martin, Angela Woods, Beryl J Hughes, Maire Mac Mahon, Gillian E Coxon-Ireland, AJ Rathbone, Judith V France and Deirdre Latta.

Rosemary came from Bath Road, Ironbridge, and was a passenger in a car which was in a collision with a van. Three others in the car were injured.

If there are any of those nurses of 1960 still around, why not drop us a line?

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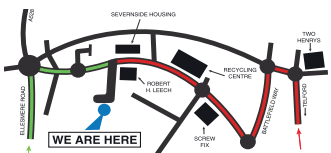
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THE ARTS

01691 668094

Chance to meet artist as gallery puts on show



Artist Keith Maiden working on his latest portrait at Qube in Oswestry.

THE work of a Shropshire artist is now on show at an Oswestry gallery – and so will be the artist himself.

Keith Maiden will be at the Qube gallery, in Oswald Road, every Wednesday. Visitors will see him hard at work on new portraits.

The Shrewsbury-based artist's exhibition runs until 10 June.

Gallery managers say that they are delighted to be able to have his work on display because he was the winner in a competition in which people were

by Iain St John

invited to vote for their favourite artist. Tonia Parry, marketing and communications officer at Qube, said: "Keith was the People's Choice winner of the Qube Open Art Competition in 2012 and his work features fascinating portraits."

"As part of the exhibition, Keith will be in the gallery every Wednesday during the exhibition working on his latest artwork."

"It's a great opportunity to meet the

artist and chat with him about his work whilst he develops his latest portrait."

"Keith has been painting for two years and has developed a very unique style through close observation of the male and female form and has exhibited his work all over Shropshire and the surrounding counties."

"This will be his first solo exhibition."

"We're really pleased to have Keith's work in the gallery and this is proving to be a very popular exhibition with visitors."

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GIG GUIDE

01691 668094

Packed weekend of music for fans

GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts

PREPARE yourselves for a jam-packed weekend of music, with all sorts of sonic delights for your listening pleasure.

The week kicks off with British folk duo Blackheart, who will be performing at The Ironworks tonight (Thursday). I use the term folk loosely as the band's music can't easily fit into a single genre, taking influence from a variety of sources.

If you had to compare them with anyone, they perhaps most closely resemble American indie folk rock band The Decemberists.

The duo have honed their craft with almost non stop touring over the last four years performing almost 400 shows throughout the UK and Ireland and have already released two albums. And the third 'Songs From A Satellite' is due for release next month.

The gig starts at 8pm with tickets costing £8 in advance and £10 on the door. Tomorrow night The Ironworks will see the return of local favourites Fight The Bear, back from their European tour.

The band from Bishops Cleeve, garnered a lot of attention for themselves in 2011 from their performance at T in The Park, leading to them being



Fight The Bear will be appearing at The Ironworks in Oswestry.

selected as Radio One's Tip of the Week.

They will be supported by Netherlands based band The Montanas.

The gig starts at 8pm with entry costing £3. The extremely talented Nikki Rous will be performing at the Lowefield Inn, Marton, tomorrow.

Armed with her trusted acoustic guitar Nikki is a singer/songwriter who writes compelling songs paired with a great singing voice.

She has shared the bill with such great bands as The Pogues, Supergrass and Jamiroquai.

The gig starts at 8:30pm and it's free entry.

Tomorrow night, the Royal Oak, Welshpool, will have music from singer/songwriter Brian Copey.

Copey has one of the best soul voices in the area, and will be playing

a variety of covers and original material. The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry.

After their successful show last year, OPM will be back for another performance at The Ironworks on Saturday night. The gig starts at 9pm with tickets costing £10 in advance and £12 on the door.

To finish off the weekend on Sunday night the Ironworks will be hosting Bear Music: Bank Holiday Beats.

There will be performances from Dave Owen, Calculon, Pixel, Conspire and Roca, Colon and Blood, Supabad, Aurora Template, PMX, Vortecx and Al Willman, and New Forms.

The event will be hosted by MC Slimify D and Floco.

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MARKETS

Welshpool livestock market

May 20

OTMS (73)

A good entry of 73 Over Thirty Month Cattle sold to an overall average 133p/kg. A Limousin cow weighing 689kg sold to a top price of £1198.86 from J Thomas & Son Tan-house Farm. A Welsh Black cow from T H Davies & Sons Clegyrddwr. A Limousin cow under 72 months of age weighing 645kg from W I Jones & Sons Cilcwm Fawr sold for £1199.70. J Thomas & Son Tan House receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £225 for the highest price older cow sold on the day. We will be holding a sale for TB Tested over thirty month cattle from Monday 8th April at 9am in ring 2. If you require any further information regarding this section please contact the market on 01938 553435 or the Auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (17)

A better entry of 17 Fat Cattle sold to average 223p/kg overall. G Bound & Son Cefn Bach sold three fat heifers for 264p/kg, 260p/kg and 261p/kg and a steer achieved 262p/kg. Evans Brothers Tynywydd sold six fat animals to average 227p/kg. G Bound & Son receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day. Weekly sale of Fat cattle every Monday commence at approximately 12.30pm. More Fat Cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers. If you require any advise or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Mr Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME HOGGETS (3124)

An entry of 3124 Prime Hoggets, sold to an overall

average of 200.83p/kg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (134) to 196p/kg from FG & G Mountford Middle Helder. Others to 172p/kg from D H M Evans Fron Farm. Average of 182p/kg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (735) to 196p/kg from N E Jones The Gaer and J A Thomas & Son Pontyentire. Others to 195p/kg from D H M Evans Fron Farm. Average of 182p/kg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (1078) to 235p/kg from Ystym Colwyn Farms. Others to 229p/kg from Lythwood Sheep Ltd. Average of 213p/kg. Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (569) to 231p/kg from Ystym Colwyn Farms. Others to 230p/kg from EW & KE Benbow Frydd. Average of 222p/kg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (175) to 221p/kg from CJ & LM Davies Lawns Farm. Others to 215p/kg from Powys Poultry. Average of 203p/kg.

SPRING LAMBS (1655) An entry of 1655 spring lambs, selling to an overall average of 269p/kg.

Super Lights (17.5kg to 25kg) (14) to 260p/kg from H Hughes & Son Hendy. Average of 251p/kg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (65) to 276p/kg from JM & MG Oliver Cilcewydd. Others to 274p/kg from R C Lloyd 103 Dolgwenith. Average of 261p/kg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (607) to 309p/kg from J Corfield & Sons Farfield. Others to 306p/kg from R Gittins Henfaes. Average of 269p/kg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (912) to 294p/kg from BE & BE Langford Lletymbeion. Others to 291p/kg from J A Williams Llechedydd Dyrys. Average of 268p/kg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (47) to 259p/kg from H G Ellis & Co Tynywern. Others to 255p/kg from P Unwin Tymavr. Average of 247p/kg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (4) to 227p/kg from DES & ER Bickerton Lloran Ucha. Average of 220p/kg.

CULL EWE (2423)

An entry of 2423 cull sheep on offer for sale today, sold to average £49.44 for the ewes and £71.36 for the rams. Top price of the day for the ewes was £08 per head from P G Wainwright & Co Parcycresgob. Top price for the cull rams was £114 per head also from P G Wainwright Parcycresgob. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the sale of fat lambs at approximately 12noon.

STORE LAMBS, COULES & CADE LAMBS.

A small entry of 2 pens of store lambs. Mixed and clean lambs achieving £30 from E W Gwilt Cwm Mawr. Top lambs achieving £41 from J G Owen Abercannon. Nine Cade lambs sold to average £11.

An entry of 500 ewes with lambs at foot. Ewes and lambs averaged £104. Top price of £180 for strong Texel yearling ewes with single lambs at foot from MJ & JM Price Penycrug Farm. Similar ewes aged three year old to Full mouth sold to £177 from R L Roberts & M D Squires Kemp Brooks Farm. And four year old Texel ewes sold to £176 from D H Owen Tygwyn. A good entry of Hogs and lambs, top price of £176 achieved for strong mule with single was lambs at foot also from MJ & JM Price Penycrug Farm. Sale of store lambs to commence 10.30am with couples and cade lambs to follow.

COWS & CALVES

With a better show of cattle on offer trade was improved which was a fair representation of the cows and calves for sale. Leading the way was RE & CJ Davies Boycott Hall, Yockleton with Limousin British BLux 1st Calver with a Limousin Bull calf at foot which made £2420, with two other outfits at £2300 overall the six from Boycott Hall averaged £2121. IJ & MEO Jones Plas Madoc sold a Limousin British Blue 1st Calver with a Limousin Bull calf for £2280. Presented by DP & RE Evans Moelygarth where

three Limousin 1st Calvers and a Hereford 1st calver with Limousin calves at foot which made £1820, £1750, £1990 and £2100 respectively. N & C Read Brinepits sold a Hereford Cow with a Limousin heifer calf for £2110. F J Owens & Co Lletygrfnach presented six Blinde D'aquataine cow with Blonde Calves at foot which sold to a top price of £2300 for an 2008 with bull calf at foot. Others sold from £1420 to £1860 to average £1630. A Pedigree Charolais bull born 1st July 2006 from B T R & R Gittins Lloerw Sylfaen sold for £2120. A breakdown of the prices achieved where as follows. £2000 + 11 lots, £1800 - £2000 3 lots, £1600 - £1800 6 lots, £1400 - £1600 7 lots, £1200 - £1400 3 lots, less than £1200 2 lots.

DAIRY COWS

An entry of 11 Dairy cattle met with a sound trade once again with a total clearance and new buyers in attendance. Leading the way was T G Phillips & Co Burgedin Farm with a Sandy Valley Bolton daughter giving 27 litres making £2060. Three heifers from WA & EM Morris Maestanyglwde sold to a top of £1920 to average £1733. R R Corfield & Co Bronynant sold a Wa-Del Hayden heifer for £1850. JC & W Davies Garthery sold a Genus Westminster 2nd calver for £1800 whilst three heifers from the same home made £1700 each. A Bomaz Homestead heifer from EG & A Edwards & Son Tynywydd sold at £1710. A breakdown of the prices achieved where as follows. £2000 + 1lot, £1800 - £2000 3 lots, £1600 - £1800 6 lots, Less than £1500 1 lot.

FORTHCOMING SALES:

Monday 27th May, Cows and Calves.

Tuesday 28th May, Store Cattle and Weanlings to inc show potential cattle.

Monday 3rd June, Dairy Cows and Cows and Calves.

Monday 10th June, Cows and Calves.

Monday 17th June, Store Cattle, Cows and Calves and Dairy Cows. Monday 24th June, Cows and Calves.

Monday 1st July, Dairy Cows. Monday 8th July, Store Cattle & Weanlings and Cows and Calves. Monday 15th July, Dairy Cows.

Monday 22nd July, Cows and Calves.

Monday 29th July, Store Cattle and Dairy Cows. Monday 5th August, Cows and Calves. Monday 12th August, Dairy Cows. Monday 19th August, Cows and Calves.

Friday 23rd August, Welsh Premier Telx Show. Saturday 24th August, Welsh Premier Telx Sale. Monday 26th August, Dairy Cows. Monday 2nd September, Organic & Conventional Store Cattle and Weanlings and Cows and Calves.

Wednesday 4th September, Welsh Beltex Show and Sale. Saturday 7th September, Machinery Sale Coed Y Dinas. Monday 9th September, Dairy Cows. Wednesday 11th September, Welsh Mule Ewe Sale. Thursday 12th September, Welsh Mule Ewe Lamb Sale. Monday 16th September, Store Cattle and Cows and Calves.

Oswestry cattle auctions

Wednesday, May 15

FAT CATTLE: (103)

A few more cattle forward today but a few less smart cattle in the show. Nevertheless a good trade on all sorts. Top slots hit 246p for Steers, 242p for Bulls and 240p (twice) for Heifers. Highest price in the lump was £1570 for a Steer. Bottom book of 120p for a plain friesian bull. Overall market average of 197.5p/kg

Young Bulls (53) Overall Average 192p.

Light Bulls (10) Average 150.5p (£645/head) Selling to 176p from M I Edwards & C W Roberts Pentre Newydd

Medium Bulls (28) Average 197p (£1015/head) Selling to 242p from R W & J L Edwards Tyn Twll

Heavy Bulls (15) Average 202.5p (£1230/head) Selling to 230p from H Howells Tynyrtwra

Steers (29) Overall Average 197p

Medium Steers (1) Selling to 150p (£817/head) from G H Daulby Rhos

Heavy Steers (28) Average 198.5p (£1280/head) Selling to 246p from P L Harrison Neuaddllwyd

Heifers (21) Overall Average 212.5p

Light Heifers (1) Selling to 240p (£948/head) from R B Jones Wernddu

Medium Heifers (11) Average 217p (£970/head) Selling to 240p from A M Jones Middle Farm

Heavy Heifers (9) Average 206.5p (£1225/head) Selling to 234p from P L Harrison Neuaddllwyd

A good entry and good trade to go with it. Thank you for your continued support

FAT LAMBS: (518)

Lights to 265p, Standards to 292p average 269p, Mediums to 284p average 263p, Heavy's to 249p average 244p. Overall average 265.5p.

FAT HOGGETS: (2159)

Superalights to 167p Lights to 203p average 181.5p, Standards to 229p average 196.5p, Mediums to 248p average 222.5p, Heavy's to 239p average 225p, Others to 226p average 211.5p. Overall average 213p.

FAT EWES: (904)

A larger entry met with a stronger trade and an increased average of £47 which still included a lot of plain ewes. Top price was £92 from W Davies, Mount Pleasant. A generally poor entry of Rams averaged £55 with a top price of £88 from T R Jones, Llanerfyl.

Please Note : All sheep entering the Market must be tagged.

CALVES: (50)

Similar numbers selling to another good level trade. Best continentals keenly contested as were friesian's today. Limousin Bulls topping the sale at £384 from Messrs Roberts Rhdyddyl £312 from Messrs Evans Halton Farm. British Blue Heifers to £348 from Messrs Williams Cilmaur £300 from Messrs Foulkes Maesteg £296 from Messrs Francis New Barns £270 from Messrs Lewis Crumpwell £270 Messrs Evans Forge Farm. Simmental Bulls to £338 from Messrs Royle Berrywood. Limousin Heifers to £314 from Messrs Roberts Rhdyddyl £272 from Messrs Davies Lower Fawngw £270 from Messrs Evans Halton Farm. British Blue Bulls to £325 from Messrs Wildbore Carreghafa £300 from Messrs Francis Crumplewell. Aberdeen Angus Bulls to £300 from Messrs Benbow Pump House. Simmental Heifers to £282 from Messrs Jones Llyneal Hall. Charolais Heifers to £270 from Messrs Evans Glandwrch. Friesian Bulls to £158 & £100 from Messrs Jones Llyneal Hall £124 from Messrs Lewis Jones Grange Farm £119 from Messrs Evans Buckfields £118 from Messrs Gilman Birch Hall £105 from Messrs Williams Lightwood Hall

STORE CATTLE: (213)

Another entry of over 200 cattle met a slightly improved trade to that seen last week. Top priced steers went to 3 Charolais x steers aged 23 & 26 months sold by R G Rogers, Weston Rhyn for £1415

(230p/kg). Top priced heifers were a pair of British Blue x heifers aged 24 months sold by D R & J A Evans, Selatyn for £1050 (200p/kg).

106 steers averaged £789 (194p/kg) with notable prices including:

£735 (245p/kg) paid for a Limousin x steer aged 11 months sold by J M Jones &

Co, Penybontfawr.

£1100 (239p/kg) & £1070 (226p/kg) paid for British Blue x steers aged 21-13 months sold by J H Williams, Llansilin.

£850 (226p/kg) paid for 3 British Blue x steers aged 12-13 months sold by H M Owen, Penybontfawr.

82 heifers averaged £755 (198p/kg) with notable prices including:

£795 (234p/kg) paid for 6 Limousin x heifers aged 19-20 months sold by W T Thomas, Llanarmon D C.

£680 (227p/kg) paid for a Limousin x heifer aged 12 months sold by J C & E M Jones, Penybontfawr.

£735 (217p/kg) paid for 6 Charolais x heifers aged 11-13 months sold by E J Morris & Son, Britthrid.

A good selection of cows & calves from J2 Farming, Oswestry were topped with Limousin x cows with bull calves selling for £1450 (x2).

Entries are now invited for our next sale on the 29th May.

£72 & CULL COWS: (44)

An entry of 44 cattle again were in excellent demand. There were a few better cattle forward but a lot of plain cattle filled the entry this week which is reflected in the average. Top price Cors 189p/kg, top price Heifer 169p/kg

Cows

Limousin to 189p average 114.14p/kg

Charolais to 128p average 121.61p/kg

Belgian Blue to 152p average 146.52p/kg

Friesian to 145p average 116.06p/kg

(230p/kg). Top priced heifers were a pair of British Blue x heifers aged 24 months sold by D R & J A Evans, Selatyn for £1050 (200p/kg).

106 steers averaged £789 (194p/kg) with notable prices including:

£735 (245p/kg) paid for a Limousin x steer aged 11 months sold by J M Jones &

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Let's hear it for the Kia – new Carens is a transformation

Drive time with Graham Breeze



THE revolution is complete at Kia with the arrival of the completely redesigned Carens.

The third-generation Carens completes the design-led upheaval that has seen the relaunch of every model in the range transforming Kia's image and driving the company towards record sales levels.

Every new version has a versatile and spacious seven-seat interior and there's a choice of one petrol and two turbodiesels – two transmissions and three trim and equipment packages.

Kia is not claiming to have re-invented the MPV with the new Carens but the new car will meet the varied needs of families at competitive prices, rather than turn heads.

The MPV sector is one of the most crowded and Kia concentrated on creating more room to give the Carens the edge over competitors.

Carens is 20mm shorter, 15mm narrower and 45mm lower than the model it replaces, which means that in size it sits somewhere between the five-seat and seven-seat models from competitors. But thanks to a 50mm increase in wheelbase and lower seat positions it more than matches them for space.

There's plenty of head and leg room in the front two rows of seats but the back two seats are really only suitable for the kids and a little too claustrophobic for my taste.

You get plenty of choice when selecting seat-



Kia Carens 4 – shorter, narrower and lower, but with plenty of room and seating

ing configurations with three individual sliding and reclining centre-row seats in place of a split bench and two separate seats in the rear, all of which fold flat to ensure versatility.

A longer, wider and taller luggage area and – for the first time – an under-floor compartment to store the cargo screen adds to the practicality. The front passenger's seat also folds flat to allow exceptionally long loads to be carried.

The front is dominated by the now familiar Schreyer 'tiger-nose' grille with a chrome edge and either black or high-gloss black mesh. At the rear is a wider tailgate and window.

The dashboard layout is similar to the Ceed hatchbacks and is clearly labelled. There's a good range of seat and steering wheel adjustment and good visibility but there was quite a bit of wind noise and the lack of a Sat-Nav system as standard is disappointing.

I prefer the 1.7-litre CRDi manual transmission turbodiesel engine, developing 134bhp and 244Nm of torque. You get from 0-60mph in 10 seconds with a 119mph top speed.

Combined cycle fuel consumption and CO2 emissions are 54.6mpg and 132g/km and a diesel particulate filter is fitted as standard.



The Kia has a well labelled dash and a host of seat and steering wheel adjustments

There are six airbags, Hill-start Assist Control is fitted and Carens also features Brake Assist to ensure maximum stopping power in an emergency. You also get Vehicle Stability Management, which links with the Electronic Stability Control to reduce the amount of steering assistance if the driver over-corrects.

The entire Kia range has now been refreshed and you get the feeling that this a company moving in the right direction with its market share increasing and with prices from £17,895 to £23,895 the Carens will be in most people's reach.

Bumper to bumper

KIA CARENS 3

Model: 1.7CRDi Manual ISG
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Top Speed: 119mph
0-60mph: 10secs
CO2 emissions: 132g/km
Combined fuel: 56.4mpg

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Motoring

Ticking all the boxes on off-road challenges

By Sharon Walters

I have a friend who does a lot of off-roading, including some pretty tough driving challenges. And this female has a fair income to fund her hobby, so she can afford pretty much whatever she wants to drive.

Her choice? A cheap and cheerful Suzuki Jimny.

"It's compact which means I can get just about anywhere I want to squeeze, it's chunky and copes with the bumps and grinds, and because it hasn't cost me the earth I won't wince if I do any damage," she explained.

Tight

So when I got the latest Jimny on test, I took her out for a bit of a spin – well not quite literally. A quick trip to her home to pick her up proved the other thing she told me, it's not that hot on roads and is a bit basic. Well they do say you get what you pay for. On the other hand, she added, because it is small you can park it in some very tight places if you pop into town to do some shopping.

And so off we trundled across the fields at her home. Some fair slopes, a lot of mud and tyres that were not specifically for off-road, proved to me just what the car can do. For a car so small it copes magnificently with bumps although on the road the ride can be a little tough. We had a great deal of fun and Jenny is now upgrading her old Jimny.



The Suzuki Jimny, a budget-priced off-roader, gets to work in difficult conditions

Jimny has a neat and practical look and since sales began in 1998, it has accumulated a loyal following of repeat customers who enjoy a quirky alternative to a supermini or crossover SUV.

The 1.3 litre engine may appear small but it gives lively performance and decent fuel economy. Maximum torque is delivered from as low as 2,500rpm, which Jimny the kind of flexible driving character and pulling power that makes it so good off road. The seats give good support, especially needed for those driving challenges.

There's a good level of standard equipment across two trim levels: SZ3 and SZ4.

The entry level SZ3 models include; front fog lamps, roof rails, remote central locking, ABS

with EBD, push button selectable four-wheel drive with high and low ratios and automatic freewheeling hubs.

SZ4 models add even more specification as standard including air conditioning; 10 spoke 15in alloy wheels, latest design seat trim with 'Jimny' badging to front seat facings, black and silver-finish roof rails, leather steering wheel trim, chrome plated interior door handles and rear privacy glass.

The driving position is high and commands an excellent all-round view. All on board enjoy plenty of headroom, increasing the sense of spaciousness created by the large glass area. Rearward visibility is aided by large, electrically operated door mirrors and a spare wheel mounted low on the rear door.



The Jimny has two trim options

Since its launch in 1998, Jimny's separate, full box-section chassis has established a strong reputation for durability and toughness.

The rigid front and rear axles are attached to the chassis by a three-link arrangement, with an anti-roll bar fitted at the front. This well-proven design, controlled by long-travel coil springs and gas dampers, is configured to cope with the demands of rough surfaces, while ensuring a refined and compliant ride on conventional roads.

Suzuki's Drive Select 4x4 system features a transfer box with high or low-ratio four-wheel drive. The freewheeling front hubs are engaged automatically and four-wheel drive can be selected on the move while travelling in a straight line at speeds of up to 62 mph. Jimny

is fundamentally designed to cope with off-road conditions with 190mm ground clearance, approach and departure angles of 34° and 46° respectively, and a ramp angle of 31°.

Jimny's chassis offers extreme rigidity in the event of a collision and is designed to absorb energy from all directions in a controlled manner. Progressive, reassuring braking performance is provided by large front discs and rear drums, supported by ABS with EBD (Electronic Brakeforce Distribution).

Airbags for driver and front passenger, side impact protection beams and height adjustable front seat belt anchorages are all standard, and the powerful multi-reflector halogen headlamps are complemented by the front bumper-mounted fog lamps.

A wide range of Suzuki genuine accessories are available.

I have the perfect buyer for one of these. Aside from keen off-roaders, those who live in the country need a standby car with four-wheel capability to cope with the ever more difficult winter (and summer) weather we are getting, with flooded roads and snow and ice on the increase, and one that doesn't cost a lot of money.

Bumper to bumper

Suzuki Jimny

Engine: 1.3-litre four-cylinder 85bhp
Performance: Top speed 87mph
Economy: 39.8mpg (combined cycle)
Insurance group: 15D
Price: From £11,295

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SPORT

Morda see title hopes shattered by defeat

ANY lingering hopes that Morda United had of lifting the Mercian Regional League premier division crown were extinguished when they crashed 4-0 at home to AFC Ludlow – who themselves sealed the title as a result of victory.

A string of mixed results in the past month had left Morda needing to win their last game of the season – and hope that other results went their way – to give them any hope of taking the championship.

But, despite starting the better of the sides, they ended up well beaten as a second half hat-trick from former Manchester United youngster Sean Evans settled the issue.

Morda boss Craig Rogers was philosophical after seeing his makeshift side defeated by the eventual league champions.

“It was always going to be a big ask, but the game itself was closer than the scoreline suggested. But no complaints, we didn’t take our chances,” he said.

“The season on a whole had so much promise, but I have to pinpoint the injury to keeper Sam Jones as a key turning point of the season for us.

“Dan Wood has done excellently for us in goal, and deserves a lot of credit and I hope in the next few years he can push on and become as good as Sam.

“If I compare my two seasons in charge, the key factor for me is consistency in team selection, and this will be my big aim for my squad build over the summer. We lacked commitment this term and that must be rectified for the new season.

The victory gave Ludlow the title with two games to play. Morda are in third.

It’s trophy time again at Park Hall

OSWESTRY Boys and Girls Club hold their presentation day on Saturday, June 8 at their grounds at Park Hall.

All junior soccer teams will be having their presentation starting at around 7pm as they present each team with their trophies.

Entry for adults will cost £2 per person (children are free) which will help the club pay for the marquee which will stage the event.

The club need to know numbers to organise seating arrangements, so those attending are asked to contact club officials before 30 May.

Kinvara is riding high

MORETON First pupil, Kinvara Garner celebrated stunning success at the Royal Windsor Horse Show winning the Show Hunter Pony Championships (122cm) on her pony Wood-vine Cadenza.

The win qualifies ten year old Kinvara for the Royal International Horse show later in the year.

Kinvara, whose home is in Wrexham, was also second in the Novice Show Pony (under 138cm) and the Shetland Grand National.

GOLF RETURNS

OSWESTRY Ladies’ Tedsome Bowl Bogy: J Mitchell +3; L Jones +2; G Thorrell +1 (cb); S Baxter +1 (cb); A Barker +1.

Crofte B win thriller Criftings C edge out B team

YE OLDE CROFTE B registered their first win of the season in division five as they edged out Plas Kynaston B 6-4, taking the shots by just two (136-134).

Bill Roberts’ emphatic 21-2 victory was to prove the key in a timely success, but the victors remain at the foot of the table.

Third bottom WESTON RHYN D also gained a welcome win as they saw off Chirk C 7-3 (138-115) to boost their prospects of climbing the table, with Malcolm Jones (21-5) bagging the coppers and Bill Evans also turning in a more than useful 21-10 win.

WHITTINGTON D, looking to keep in touch with the leading pack, were squeezed out 6-4 at Overton C after losing the shots by just seven (148-141). Eirlys Williams and Colin Bain were their best winners, prevailing to 14 and 15 respectively.

LLANRHAeadr B succumbed 9-1 (167-88) at second placed Ruabon B, their only joy coming from Juliet Brown who came out

on top in a closely 21-20 encounter.

LLANFYLLIN B took the honours in their division six top-of-the-table showdown with LLANRHAeadr E, winning 6-4 after taking the aggregate 149-129.

Jim Parry led the way for the home side with a 21-7 success, with Jac Jones (21-12) the pick of the replies.

CHURCH E remain in the lower reaches of the table after slumping 8-2 (155-121) to visiting CRIFTINS D.

The hosts had to work hard for their two wins, with Neville Bennett prevailing to 19 and Jan Cama to 20, while for Criftings Philip Herbert notched a convincing 21-5 win and Alan Morris took his match 21-7.

LLANRHAeadr D kept up the pressure on the leaders with an 8-2 (150-114) home success over WESTON RHYN E, with Berwyn Davies (21-7) and Tom Roberts (21-9) both having good single figure wins. John Hines (21-10) was the best of the replies.

CRIFTINS C made up ground on the leading pack in the Oswestry District Bowling League division three – after putting the brakes on their own B team with the narrowest of margins.

In the end just two shots (130-128) decided the ‘derby’ as Criftings C emerged 6-4 winners to move to fourth in the table, one place behind their B team.

Roger Barkley took the coppers for the C string with a 21-8 display, his fourth win of the campaign, while the best response came from Robbie Hughes (21-8).

CHURCH C are back on track after going second with a convincing 8-2 (149-79) home win over Flexsys B, Adrian Jones notching his fourth win with a whitewash, while Roy Jones won to two.

Brian Charles made it five out of five

with a comfortable 21-3 win as WHITTINGTON E moved up to sixth in the table with a crushing 9-1 home success over WESTON RHYN C, who now find themselves just three points off the foot of the table.

Kevin Williams (21-8) was another single figure winner for the home side who took the aggregate 166-102, while Rhyn’s lone reply came from John Gale who won to 19.

ELLESMERE A moved eight points clear at the top of division four with an impressive 8-2 win on their travels to LLANRHAeadr C, taking the aggregate 152-121.

Tony Johnson (21-7), with his fifth win, and Michael Davostan (21-10) were on song for the visitors, while Ian Metcalfe (21-11) and Courtney Metcalfe (21-20) maintained their 100 per cent records with their sixth straight

wins. Tom Roberts (21-10) was the best of the replies.

FOX LANE lost ground following their slender 7-3 defeat at Llanyngoch C who took the aggregate by just four shots (144-140), Paul Lindup continuing his good form as he reeled off his sixth win on the bounce with a 21-4 card for the visitors to top the division four averages.

WHITTINGTON C are six points adrift at the foot of the table after their loss at ELLESMERE B, who are looking good in third spot.

There were four single figure wins for the Lakesiders, with Glyn Davies securing a 21-0 whitewash while Beryl Hall and Mike Edwards both won to six.

Elsewhere, CHURCH D remain in the lower reaches after their 7-3 (153-132) loss at WESTON RHYN B who eased their own basement worries as a result of their win.

William Lewis and Norma Edwards both won to 14 for Church, while Patrick Bubb led the way for Rhyn with a 21-12 showing.

A narrow five shots win earned LLANYMYNECH B a 6-4 (140-135) victory over Corwen B, Tony Jones chalking up the best card with a 21-10 win.

PLACINGS

Oswestry & District Bowling League

Division one: Chirk AAA A 8 (163), Corwen A 2 (128), Johnstown A 9 (163), Whittington A 1 (108), Overton A 2 (125), Church A 8 (147), Ruabon A 4 (140), Ceirng Valley A 6 (150), Weston Rhy A 8 (148), Llanymynech A 2 (124).

Division two: Church B 7 (148), Llanrhaeadr A 3 (142), Cymryd A 8 (142), Johnstown B 2 (118), Llanyngoch A 9 (160), Johnstown C 1 (89), Whittington B 6 (141), Llanyngoch A 4 (139), Ye Olde Crofte A 3 (138), George T (157), Johnstown D 6 (140), Black Lion A (127).

Division three: Church C 8 (149), Flexsys B 2 (79), Criftings C 6 (130), Criftings B 4 (128), Llanyngoch B 3 (140), Plas Kynaston A 7 (151), Overton B 6 (142), Ceirng Valley B 4 (124), Royston A 8 (158), Chirk AAA B 2 (126), Whittington E 9 (166), Weston Rhy C 1 (102).

Division four: Ceirng Valley C 8 (147), Llanyllin A 2 (107), Ellesmere B 10 (168), Whittington C 0 (78), Llanyngoch C 7 (144), Fox Lane 3 (140), Llanrhaeadr C 2 (121), Ellesmere A 8 (152), Llanymynech B 6 (146), Corwen A 5 (152), Weston Rhy B 7 (153), Church D 3 (132).

Division five: Bersham 10 (168), Johnstown F 8 (80), Cymryd B 8 (143), Royston B 2 (106), Overton C 6 (148), Whittington D 4 (141), Ruabon B (167), Llanrhaeadr B (88), Weston Rhy D 7 (138), Chirk AAA C (115), Ye Olde Crofte B 6 (136), Plas Kynaston B 4 (134).

Division six: Church E 2 (121), Criftings D 8 (165), Johnstown E 7 (154), Llanyngoch B 3 (129), Llanyllin B 5 (149), Llanrhaeadr E 4 (128), Llanrhaeadr D 8 (150), Weston Rhy E 2 (114).

DIVISION 1	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Johnstown A	6	4	2	0	+139	39
Chirk AAA A	6	4	2	0	+109	35
Criftings A	5	3	2	0	+78	31
Ceirng Valley A	6	4	2	0	+23	31
Flexsys A	5	4	1	0	+57	30
Corwen A	6	3	3	0	+13	30
Whittington A	6	3	3	0	-29	30
Ruabon A	6	3	3	0	-26	29
Church A	6	4	2	0	-3	28
Weston Rhy A	6	4	2	0	-113	26
Llanymynech A	6	2	4	0	-126	23
Overton A	6	2	4	0	-125	23

DIVISION 2	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Ye Olde Crofte A	6	2	4	0	-100	37
Llanyngoch A	6	3	2	1	+90	34
Johnstown B	6	4	2	0	+89	34
George T	6	4	2	0	+67	34
Church B	6	3	2	1	-20	34
Llanyngoch A	6	3	2	1	+74	33
Llanrhaeadr A	6	2	4	0	+60	31
Cymryd A	6	3	3	0	-41	31
Johnstown C	6	3	3	0	-54	28
Johnstown D	6	1	3	2	-130	22
Black Lion	6	2	4	0	-84	21
Whittington B	6	2	4	0	-151	21

DIVISION 3	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Plas Kynaston A	6	4	1	1	+107	37
Church C	6	4	2	0	+78	36
Criftings A	6	3	3	0	+60	34
Chirk AAA B	6	3	2	1	+21	31
Whittington E	6	3	3	0	-14	30
Overton B	6	3	3	0	-29	29
Ceirng Valley B	6	2	4	0	+11	28
Royston A	6	3	3	0	-32	28
Weston Rhy C	6	3	3	0	-85	27
Llanyngoch B	6	2	4	0	-52	25
Flexsys B	6	2	4	0	-160	24

DIVISION 4	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Ellesmere A	6	5	1	0	+242	47
Fox Lane	6	5	1	0	+109	39
Ellesmere B	6	3	3	0	+218	37
Llanymynech B	6	2	4	0	+53	36
Ceirng Valley C	6	3	3	0	+60	34
Llanyngoch C	6	2	4	0	-42	33
Llanrhaeadr C	6	3	3	0	-39	32
Llanyllin A	6	2	4	0	-64	25
Corwen B	6	1	5	0	+28	24
Weston Rhy B	6	2	4	0	-21	21
Church D	6	2	4	0	-188	19
Whittington C	6	1	5	0	-362	13

DIVISION 5	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Bersham	6	5	0	1	+279	48
Ruabon B	6	5	1	0	+230	43
Chirk AAA C	6	3	3	0	+60	36
Whittington D	6	3	2	1	+33	32
Plas Kynaston B	6	2	3	1	-11	30
Cymryd B	6	3	3	0	-43	29
Llanrhaeadr B	6	2	2	2	-85	28
Overton C	6	3	3	0	-63	27
Royston B	6	2	4	0	-24	24
Weston Rhy D	6	2	4	0	-107	24
Johnstown F	6	2	4	0	-160	22
Ye Olde Crofte B	6	2	4	0	-153	17

DIVISION 6	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Llanyllin B	6	5	0	1	+116	27
Llanrhaeadr D	6	5	0	1	+116	27
Weston Rhy E	6	5	0	1	+116	27
Llanyngoch D	6	4	1	1	-24	18
Llanymynech C	6	4	1	1	-44	17
Criftings D	6	3	2	1	-64	16
Church E	6	1	3	2	-64	16
Johnstown E	6	1	3	2	-39	15

Oswestry School trio net honours on court



Oswestry School pupils and rising hockey stars (from left): Sian Grice, Alex Dewing and Bethan Edwards

THREE pupils from Oswestry School have been part of winning netball teams in the Central Venue League, Shropshire’s only junior league.

Sian Grice and Bethan Edwards (Year 8) have represented the Oswestry Bobcats team that won Shropshire Junior League under-14 division three title.

The team narrowly beat the Baschurch Stars 17-16 to take the title, with Grice also being awarded the coach’s player certificate for her efforts this season.

Alex Dewing (Year 9) has been playing for the Oswestry Ospreys which play in the under-14s division two, and

they have also finished top of their table.

Darren Hollingsworth, the school’s director of sport, added: “The school are extremely proud of the girls’ sporting achievements on the netball court. We are delighted that they are competing at such a high level which bodes well.

Ifton travel to Dragons’ den in confident mood Atherton takes World Cup fifth

AFTER reeling off an emphatic home win, Ifton look to maintain the momentum when they head to St Georges in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League tomorrow (Friday) night.

The St Martins side were unstoppable last week as they trounced Wrockwardine Wood 12-2, with an emphatic 72 shots margin (233-161).

That success put them sixth in the table, one place behind Friday’s opponents, with the Dragons certain to prove a tougher test on home soil.

“St Georges is always a difficult place to go, but the green will be heavy which will suit us, and hopefully we can come away with four winners,” said skipper Dicky Jones.

Ifton make the trip in good heart after dominating against Wrockwardine, winning

the front and middle fours 3-1, before having a whitewash in the back four.

There were a number of excellent displays, with Nicky Jones being named most valuable player of the match with a 21-11 verdict over Steve Broome.

Dave ‘Rocky’ Jones had the biggest win, to four, while Martin Jones (21-8) and the in-form Keiron Roberts (21-9) were other good single figure winners, and Darren Lacey won to 12.

Meanwhile, Ifton were fined £50 for failing to raise a team for last week’s County Cup tie, also against Wrockwardine Wood, which should have been played at Ford.

There was confusion that the club had entered the competition, and they had no chance but to withdraw as several players were playing for other clubs in the Flintshire League on the same night.

OSWESTRY downhill racer Dan Atherton took an impressive fifth place in the opening round of the Enduro World Series in Punta Ala, Italy.

With his Belgian team-mate Martin Maes, coming fourth with a sensational ride, it was a terrific start for the GT Racing team.

Local organisers claimed that the race would be “the hardest on the circuit” and there was certainly no shortage of technical trails across Sunday’s stages.

Before the bulk of the racing the riders took on the prologue stage the night before, with a small mistake seeing Atherton just two seconds back in 13th.

On a muddy trail, Atherton rode the stage steadily coming in a respectable seventh then got progressively faster throughout the day.

Because of weather warnings in the run-up to the event stage 2 was cancelled. Atherton was fifth on stage three, fifth on stage four and third on stage five.

Round two will take place at Val d’Alos, France at the end of June.

SPORT

PLACINGS

Birmingham League

DIVISION 2					
	P	W	L	A	Bat Bwl Pts
Harborne	4	3	0	1	40 69
Attlock	4	3	0	1	41 65
Halesowen	4	2	1	1	31 53
Old Elizabethans	4	2	1	0	53 53
Easton	4	2	1	1	40 49
Stourbridge	4	2	2	0	1 34 44
Winchbury	4	2	1	1	31 47
Fordhouses	4	1	2	1	64 35
Coverly & NW	4	1	2	1	63 34
Shropshire-Avon	4	1	3	0	67 33
Water Orion	4	1	3	0	49 30
Oswestry	4	1	3	0	5 28

DIVISION 2 (NORTH)

	P	W	L	A	Bat Bwl Pts
Cannock	4	4	0	0	80 80
Atton Manor	4	3	0	1	68 68
Penn	4	3	0	1	68 68
Milford Hall	4	3	1	0	4 66
Redbridge	4	3	2	0	65 65
Streety	4	2	1	1	64 55
Stourbridge	4	2	1	1	4 52
Oswestry	4	2	1	1	6 34
Whitchurch	4	0	3	1	42 21
Fordhouses	4	0	3	1	67 18
Brewod	4	0	4	2	9 11
Quatt	4	0	4	2	9 11

Manby Bowdler Shropshire County Cricket League

PREMIER DIVISION					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Newport	5	4	0	3	0 100
Reman Services	5	1	3	1	30 79
Frankton	5	3	1	1	60 76
Ludlow & SS	5	2	2	0	60 76
Albrighton	5	3	0	2	10 74
Worfield	5	1	2	2	22 62
St Georges	5	2	1	1	50 58
Forton	5	2	1	1	4 58
Wroxeter & Upp	5	1	3	1	0 52
Allscott	5	1	1	3	14 40
Cound	5	1	0	4	16 39
Bomere Heath	5	0	1	4	19 20

DIVISION 1					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Much Wenlock	5	4	0	0	0 101
Newtown	5	3	2	0	11 85
Shelton	5	3	1	1	12 84
Brosley	5	1	3	1	21 70
Welshpool	5	3	0	1	40 69
Madeley	5	2	0	2	9 58
Forton	5	2	0	2	1 58
Albrighton	5	1	0	3	22 47
Lilleshall	5	1	1	3	15 46
Candover	5	0	3	1	14 43
Montgomery	5	0	3	2	25 39
Pontesbury	5	0	0	4	14 19

DIVISION 2					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Knockin & Kinn	5	4	0	1	30 87
Wellington III	5	3	0	1	7 80
Tabernon	5	2	0	1	12 75
Market Drayton	5	2	1	1	12 71
Beacon	5	2	1	1	19 66
Bishop's Castle	5	2	2	0	8 58
Wiley	5	2	1	1	6 58
Grove	5	2	1	1	7 55
Corvedale	5	1	0	3	14 47
Iscoyd & FB	5	0	4	1	1 39
Ellesmere	5	0	2	2	9 21
Llanidloes	5	0	0	4	12 0

DIVISION 3					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Wheaton Aston	5	1	3	0	14 80
Caer Glas	5	1	3	0	21 69
Shifnal III	5	1	3	1	22 68
Church Stretton	5	2	2	0	13 65
St Georges III	5	1	4	0	24 61
Acton Reynald	5	1	3	1	21 56
Church Aston	5	1	2	1	11 56
Chelmarsh	5	1	1	1	15 46
Oswestry III	4	2	1	1	15 46
Shrewsbury III	4	2	1	0	2 45
Calverhall	5	0	0	4	14 22
Harcourt	5	0	2	3	16 20

DIVISION 4					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Newport III	4	4	0	0	0 96
Prees	5	3	0	2	11 75
Overtown-Dee	5	3	0	1	40 73
Wem III	4	2	2	0	7 62
Brighthelm	4	2	2	0	9 57
Gulfield	5	1	2	1	8 56
Hodnet & Peplow	4	2	0	1	7 54
Hinstock	5	0	3	2	0 48
Trysil & Seisdon	4	0	1	2	20 32
Bomere Heath III	5	0	2	2	17 31
Ludlow & SS III	5	0	1	4	20 28

DIVISION 5					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Harpers	5	4	0	0	0 101
Whittington	5	3	1	1	13 85
Hales	5	3	1	1	11 85
Quayside	5	3	0	2	0 70
Frankton III	5	2	1	2	9 61
Knockin & Kinn III	5	2	0	3	13 61
Wellington V	5	2	1	2	10 56
Coton Hall	5	2	0	3	0 54
Worfield III	5	2	0	3	1 49
Lilleshall III	5	1	3	1	4 47
Madeley III	5	1	0	4	0 28
Reman Serv III	5	0	2	3	18 18

DIVISION 6					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Brosley II	5	4	0	1	0 109
Whitchurch II	5	4	0	0	0 97
Welshpool II	5	4	0	0	0 93
Quatt II	5	3	1	1	11 85
St Georges IV	5	2	2	0	10 55
Corvedale II	5	2	0	3	0 54
Grove II	5	1	2	1	9 49
Cound II	5	1	2	1	13 47
Albrighton II	5	1	1	3	13 41
Calverhall II	5	1	1	2	14 41
Ellesmere II	5	1	1	2	12 40
Pontesbury II	5	1	1	3	10 36
Llanidloes II	5	0	1	3	13 20
Allscott II	5	0	1	4	0 17

RESERVE DIVISION 1					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Newport II	5	5	0	0	0 117
Ludlow & SS II	5	4	0	1	0 103
St Georges II	5	3	0	2	10 78
Reman Services II	5	3	0	1	7 74
Worfield II	5	2	0	1	14 72
Albrighton I	5	2	1	2	16 68
Wroxeter & Upp II	5	2	1	2	12 60
Wiley II	5	1	3	1	15 49
Welshpool I	5	1	0	3	8 37
Lilleshall I	5	0	1	1	11 22 31
Wellington I	5	0	3	1	15 24 29
Wem I	5	0	4	1	15 24

RESERVE DIVISION 2					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Frankton II	5	3	2	1	3 28
Madeley II	5	3	2	1	0 27 71
Knockin & Kinn II	5	2	1	1	13 69
Candover II	5	2	1	1	13 67
Newtown II	5	2	2	0	10 67
Beacon II	5	2	1	1	8 58
Allscott II	5	2	0	2	2 54
Shifnal II	5	2	0	1	14 72
Pontesbury I	5	1	3	1	11 41
Montgomery I	5	1	0	3	10 35
Wiley I	5	1	0	3	16 30
Albrighton II	5	0	1	3	16 21

RESERVE DIVISION 3					
	P	W	D	L	B Pts
Market Drayton II	5	4	0	1	0 92
Much Wenlock II	5	3	1	0	9 88
Oswestry I	5	3	1	0	1 86
Caer Glas II	5	2	1	1	15 49
Bishop's Castle II	5	2	0	3	14 58
Forton II	5	2	1	2	12 57
Calverhall I	5	1	1	3	19 49
Shifnal I	5	1	1	3	2 49
Tabernon II	5	1	2	1	11 42
Iscoyd & FB II	5	0	1	3	15 40
Ludlow & SS IV	5	1	2	2	13 38
Ludlow & SS IV	5	1	2	2	0 36

Best win of season so far for Whittington

WHITTINGTON produced their best win of the season as they trounced previous table toppers Hales by 80 runs to underline their own promotion aspirations in the Shropshire League division five.

After opting to bat on winning the toss, the villagers soon took the initiative as they turned in a strong batting display to rattle up 251-2 in their 40 overs.

The bulk of the runs came in a second wicket partnership of 199 with Gareth Morris continuing his good form with 79 not out and opener Jonathan Mitchell top scoring with 114.

Hales provided resistance in reply, not losing their first wicket until the 17th over, but Rob Morris' 5-33 tore the heart out of the innings as Hales were bowled out for 171 in the 37th over. Iwan Ellis finished things off with 3-8 to bag 24 points that lifted Whittington up to second spot, and 10 points off the pace.

FRANKTON III slumped to a seven wicket reverse to Quayside in the same division after being skittled for 58 in 33 overs.

Elwyn Jones (17) top scored in the modest total as Ian Dalton and Jamie White both took three wickets.

Although Scott Evans snapped up 3-23, there was little chance of defending such a low score as the Shrewsbury side got home with time to spare.

Ruchira Nimanath cracked a fine century for CAE GLAS in their winning draw at St Georges III that maintained their early challenge in division three.

Batting first, the Oswestry side racked up a formidable 225-4 in 45 overs, with Nimanath finally caught for 106 while opener Mark Jones weighed in with 58 to

help lay the foundations. In reply, St Georges held out on 193-9 to deny their visitors outright victory, Gareth Edgerton taking 3-29 and Keith Yapp 3-30. Glas are second in the table.

CAE GLAS II recorded their first win of the season in the reserve division three with an exciting one wicket success over Bishop's Castle II at Gatacre. Asked to bat first, Castle reached 120-8 from their 40 overs, with three wickets each for Gavin Porritt (3-47) and Nick Chesters (3-9), while Ben Poulton top scored for the visitors with 37.

In reply, The Glas were coasting to their target at 106-4, but Castle had other ideas and skipper Paul Cottrell (4-43) and teenager George Rayment (3-19) ripped through the home side's middle order.

That left experienced stalwarts John Clarke and Barry Vaughan as the last pair

in the middle requiring three runs for victory. The duo eked out a couple of singles to take their side over the line.

GUILSFIELD suffered a remarkable defeat by just six runs in a low scoring affair at Bridgnorth III in division four.

The villagers looked to be in charge after skittling the home side for 69, Daniel Brown taking 4-28 and David Harris 4-35. But their reply subsided to 63 all out.

WELSHPOOL III notched a six wicket win over Ellesmere II to stay hard on the heels of the leaders in division six.

Put in, the Lakesiders reached 126-9 in 40 overs, opener Mike Lewis hitting 25, with Mat McWhinnie taking 4-34 and Damon Preston 2-24. Pool timed their run chase well to get home with eight balls to spare, opener Roger Knight finishing unbeaten on 42 and Stuart Jones hitting 38.

Skipper leads from front as Frankton stalk the leaders

SKIPPER Jordan Parry again led from the front as Frankton continued their strong start to the Shropshire Cricket League premier division with a commanding 73-run victory at Allscott to keep the leaders in their sights.

Put in to bat, they prospered with Parry showing more good form with the bat before falling just seven runs short of a century in his side's 233-8 off 50 overs.

He was given good support in a 61-run stand with wicketkeeper Ross Bladen who finished 27 not out, while opener Ian Whitticase and Sam Todd both hit 26.

Allscott never threatened the target as they toiled to 140 all out in 38.1 overs, opener Martin Jones (41) and Awwal Gani (38) providing the only real resistance.

Richard Parry-Jones picked up 3-34 from nine overs, and there were two wickets apiece for Sam Phillips (2-17 off nine) and Thomas Welton (2-27 off 10) as Frankton moved up to third.

High flying KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY are looking good in division two as they eased to a nine wicket win over Grove at Frankwell to cement pole position.

Three runs out put the skids under Grove who were restricted to 121-9 in 40 overs, Hugh Morris the pick of the bowlers with 3-17 off nine overs.

In reply, Knockin had few problems despite the early loss of Gary Darlington, with Steven Gray cracking 64 not out and skipper Jack Jones unbeaten on 41 to seal victory in 22 overs.

A stirring comeback saw KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY II snatch a 19-run victory at home to Beacon II in the reserve division two.

Batting first on a damp track, Knockin overcame the early loss of Ed Nicholas as Paul Higginson and opener Bluey Thomas took the score to 70 before Higginson was dismissed for an excellent 38.

Wickets then started to fall but Thomas, who was dropped five times before eventually being dismissed for a hard earned 70, helped the hosts to 137-9 in 40 overs.

In reply, Beacon started briskly, racing to 61 for one wicket off 12 overs, but Knockin rallied, led by skipper Paul Garry who returned figures of 5-30, assisted by some superb fielding.

Beacon were bowled out for 118 with three overs left,

CRICKET

by John Bridgwater

with Michael Carpenter and Paul Higginson both chipping in with two wickets.

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY III suffered a three wicket loss to Coton Hall in division five, after seeing their lead 162 surpassed.

Opener Mac Niddrie-Davies (31) and David Smith (42) were both trapped lbw before the innings subsided from 116-3 to 162 all out, Charles Brown finishing 28 not out.

Gareth Rich (65) then steered Coton Hall to their target in 42.4 overs.

Support

MONTGOMERY III fell short in their run chase as they went down by 15 runs at Madeley to remain second from bottom in division one.

Deciding to field first, Monty's bowlers found the home batsmen in good form with opener Stephen Pugh finishing unbeaten on 109, containing 16 fours.

Chris Hodson (25) and skipper Andrew Lloyd (25no) also weighed in with useful support in their side's 220-2 after 50 overs, with the only wicket taker being Richard Powell who picked up 2-38 from 14 overs.

Despite losing an early wicket, Monty made a brave effort to get their runs, with opener Sam Davies (27) and Aaron Ruff-cock (66, with seven fours and two sixes)

forging a 75-run stand for the second wicket.

From being 81-1, they slumped to 136-8, but Andrew Barker's quickfire 50 off just 42 balls, containing six fours and three sixes, almost saw them pull off a stunning win before being dismissed for 205.

It was also a disappointing day for MONTGOMERY II who were well beaten by eight wickets against their Madeley counterparts.

Monty toiled to 105 all out, helped by 43 extras, as Callum Hodson, Dan Kearsley and Sagar Jeram all picked up three wickets, before Madeley cruised to their target inside 24 overs.

There was a frustrating afternoon for ELLESMERE whose second division clash at home to Market Drayton was abandoned without a ball being bowled due to a wet pitch. It left Ellesmere second from bottom and still seeking their first win off the season.

FRANKTON II are also going well in reserve division two as they cemented pole position with a five wicket win against Allscott II. After dismissing their visitors for 125, Jacob Northwood taking 3-18 and Tom Cockayne 4-16, they reached their target with time to spare helped by Dave Powell's unbeaten 55.



Oswestry's batsman Warwick Finn in action against Fordhouses

Oswestry crash to defeat as batsmen crumble

HOW savagely ironic that on the day of the Eurovision Song Contest, Oswestry's cricketers should score "nil points".

The poorest Oswestry batting display for many a

SPORT

Memorial golf day in memory of Niel Kelly

A MEMORIAL golf day is being organised in memory of a well known Shropshire Rotarian who had been an amateur international golfer.

The Niel Kelly Memorial in aid of Prostate Cancer UK will be played for at Oswestry Golf Club on Wednesday, August 21.

Niel, who was a founder member of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, had played golf as an amateur for Ulster and Ireland.

He was a well respected member at Oswestry Golf Club, had been captain of Royal St David's and Shropshire and Herefordshire County Captain twice.

His wife Sandra, who is also a member at Oswestry, will donate and present the Niel Kelly trophy and cups for the day.

Special

Teams of four ladies, four gentlemen or mixed teams are being invited to take part at a cost of £160 per team.

Those interested should contact Geoff Lloyd, president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire, on 01743-364936.

Or email Julian Wells on Julian.wells@gmail.com

Said Geoff: "We want this to be a really special day and we are looking for 20 teams of four to book their day of golf now."

"Rotarians and others who don't play golf can caddy and take part and we are looking forward to this being a very happy charity golf day in memory of Niel who was so popular both as a golfer and Rotarian."

"He was president of the Rotary club of Shawbury and Mid Shropshire in 1999-2000 and sadly passed away in 2012."

Entries time for Mynydd Myrf hill run

TREFONEN hill walk weekend holds a special event – the Mynydd Myrf Hill Run – from the village hall on Bank Holiday Monday (11am), which provides an introduction to off-road running and racing.

It provides approximately 6.5 kilometres (four miles) of mixed terrain on trail paths, through farmland and wooded areas and country lanes including climbs totalling 150 metres plus (500ft).

This event is just one part of the delightful Trefonen hill walk weekend, which raises funds for various charities.

There are prizes for first three Men and Women plus age group prizes 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+ Entries are taken on the day. More details can be found at oswestry-olympians.com

Wrestling is big success

AS part of there UK Tour, American Wrestling touring Company SLAM Wrestling held a one off event in Oswestry.

The Venue at Park Hall staged two hours of spectacular in ring action last Friday.

The show included Memphis USA's own Wrestling star Jonny Rose, Body Building Superman Rik Van Damage, SLAM Wrestling Champion and the high-flying sensation Scotty Wildside and Local Wrestler Layton Cole.

Match-winning display by Williams helps secure silverware



The victorious COBRA side celebrate their famous trophy win



The COBRA forwards launch an attack against the Bala pack

COBRA joy as they beat Bala to lift Plate for the first time

RUGBY
by John Bridgwater

COBRA brought the curtain down on a memorable season by lifting the North Wales Plate for the first time with a stirring 24-19 success over Bala in the final at Colwyn Bay.

It was the first trophy for a number of seasons for the Meifod side who made it a double celebration having just a few weeks earlier clinched promotion from the Swalec League division two (north) after finishing runners-up.

A man-of-the-match display from fly half Llew Williams helped secure the silverware against their first division rivals in a final that witnessed no fewer than six harshly awarded yellow cards, three on each side.

"Having lost in a few cup finals, it was nice to finally win one and not finish runners-up," said club spokesman James Watkin. It's been the best ever season for the club, having won promotion and now this, and the lads showed terrific spirit and really performed on the day.

Dominated

"Bala are in the top half of division one, so it was a good benchmark for us. It was a nip and tuck game. Bala would say they missed their chances, but we took ours and matched them physically."

"It was a really good win, and a great day for the club to win the North Wales Plate for the first time."

With a slight wind and slope in their favour, COBRA were on top for most of the first half and opened up a 6-0 lead through two penalties from the ever reliable Llew Williams.

However, the Llanfair Caereinion side became a little sloppy and tried to play too much rugby in their own half, and paid the price as their opponents hit back to level with a brace of penalties.

But the momentum was with COBRA and two more penalties from Williams saw them extend their lead before getting their first try when prop Hywel Jones went over from a forward drive following a line-out, Williams adding the conversion for a 19-6 interval lead.

The encounter then became dominated by the refereeing with the first of six yellow cards being shown to prop Andy Evans just before half time.

When down to 14 after the break, COBRA's lead was reduced by a penalty and try before they hit back when, with their rivals having also been reduced to 14, fullback Rhodri Mayor went over in the corner, which was unconverted for a 24-14 lead.

Bala got their second try to move within five points but, with the final now being dominated by yellow cards, there was no further score in the final 20 minutes as the Meifod side held firm for a famous win.

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's league teams have now embarked on their summer league season – and it has proved to be a "baptism of fire" for two of the teams who achieved promotion last season.

The Ladies second team, now playing in G4N, played three fixtures in two weeks with mixed, though improving results.

Their first fixture was away to local tennis club OTT and the youngsters in the team proved to be far too strong for the Oswestry Ladies and they lost all four rubbers in straight sets.

The second fixture was away to Team Mosaic who play at the Shropshire Tennis

Centre. The weather was extremely bad with very heavy rain so it was fortuitous that indoors courts were available to allow the fixture to be played.

In the first round rubbers, the first pair of Speth Cumpston and Carol Slater took the first set against the opposing first pair 7-5 before dropping the second set 2-6 requiring a deciding third set tie break to decide the outcome. Points went to 7-7 when the Mosaic pair edged ahead and took it 10-7.

The second pair of Linda Davies and Julie Phillips lost to the opposing second pair in straight sets 2-6, 2-6.

BBC commentator John Inverdale and former England rugby player, Simon Halliday, delighted a packed crowd of 180 guests at a sporting dinner at Moreton Hall.

Inverdale captivated and amused the audience with his knowledge of many

sports and with his anecdotes of life as one of the country's most successful sports broadcasters.

Halliday's knowledge of the finest details of his sport and his insight into what drives an elite athlete were inspirational.

There were other touchdowns

Pictured at Moreton Hall are (from left) ex-England player Simon Halliday, Isabella Mason (head prefect), Rose Booth and the BBC's John Inverdale

Their time at the Oswestry school had been generously donated to raise awareness and funds for their chosen charity, CRY and the Moreton Hall Foundation.

CRY was founded in 1995 to raise awareness of conditions that can lead

Welshpool end season with try romp

WELSHPOOL, sure of a top six finish in the Swalec League division three (north), ended their season on a winning note with a 64-7 romp against struggling Holyhead in a rearranged clash at Maesdyre.

It has been a creditable campaign for Pool who have blooded several youngsters this season, and they will now be hoping to kick

on next season.

They proved too strong in running in 10 tries against a young Holyhead side who were forced to fulfil their final fixture after pulling out of the game the previous week due to lack of numbers.

Welshpool never looked back after taking a first minute lead with a try from skipper and flanker Sam

Johns, and they were 43-7 up at half time with the Anglesey visitors' only score coming through a penalty try.

Centre John Rhys Jones went over for four tries for the hosts, while fly half Phil Saunders crossed twice as well as kicking seven conversions.

There were other touchdowns

from young 6ft 7ins second row Tom Thompson, hooker Anthony Scanlon and prop Ben Astley, with his first try for the club.

NEWTOWN were also on a high as they celebrated promotion from division three (north) after securing runners-up spot with their 53-7 home hammering of Porthmadog.

Rhys Stephens side will step up to division one next term, along with runners-up Llandrindog Wells.

Banw are defeated but still beat drop

DYFFRYN BANW escaped relegation from the Spar Mid Wales League division one by the skin of their teeth despite going down 3-1 at home to runners-up Montgomery on the final day of the season.

Although they lost their last fixture, Banw survived on goal difference after basement rivals Newbridge crashed 9-0 at home to Tywyn Bryncrug to drop down to the second division along with bottom club Dolgellau.

Montgomery, who narrowly missed out on the title the previous week, ensured they ended their campaign a high with their victory at lowly Banw with Neil Pryce, Rhidian Morris and Elliot Jones the scorers, while Rhodri Davies pulled one back with a penalty.

A few days earlier, Monty hit the woodwork no fewer than five times as they were edged out 2-1 at home to Carno, Elliot Jones getting their reply.

Champions LLANID-LOES TOWN wrapped up their triumphant league season with a comfortable 9-2 victory at already relegated Dolgellau.

The high fliers, who are heading for the Cymru Alliance next season, never looked back after Matthew Savage fired the first with a stunning 25-yarder, the first of his hat-trick.

Tom Goodwin also scored three times, while Gareth Mansell (penalty) and Richie Evans added further goals with top scorer Jamie Breese rounding off the rout.

Hat-trick

WATERLOO ROVERS warmed up for Saturday's league cup final with Llanidloes Town with a 6-3 victory over Aberystwyth University at Maesdyre.

Steve Hole led the charge with a hat-trick, while Ricky Lichfield scored a brace and Rob Jones got the other to see Waterloo finish the league season in sixth place with 52 points – their best haul since 2001.

One time challengers FOUR CROSSES were unable to halt their disappointing finish after suffering a 6-3 beating at the hands of Central Wales Cup finalists Aberaeron in their last outing at Foxen Manor.

Remarkably, there were no goals in the first half before the floodgates opened after the break with Aberaeron capitalising on the fact their rivals had been reduced to 10 men.

A goal from Tony Ashley Evans was to no avail as CARNO completed their campaign with a narrow 2-1 home loss to Bow Street.

LLANFAIR UNITED, champions of the second division, brought the curtain down on their league campaign by winning 3-2 at Knighton with Ben Jones, Geraint Jones and Chris Gethin on the mark.

Rhys Stephens side will step up to division one next term, along with runners-up Llandrindog Wells.

Presentation date for club

OSWESTRY Boys and Girls Club hold their presentation day on Saturday, June 8 at their grounds at Park Hall.

Entry for adults will cost £2 per person (children are free of charge).

The club need to know numbers to organise seating arrangements, so those attending are asked to contact club officials before 30 May.

Baptism of fire for Oswestry Tennis Club teams

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's league teams have now embarked on their summer league season – and it has proved to be a "baptism of fire" for two of the teams who achieved promotion last season.

The Ladies second team, now playing in G4N, played three fixtures in two weeks with mixed, though improving results.

Their first fixture was away to local tennis club OTT and the youngsters in the team proved to be far too strong for the Oswestry Ladies and they lost all four rubbers in straight sets.

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Centre. The weather was extremely bad with very heavy rain so it was fortuitous that indoors courts were available to allow the fixture to be played.

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The second pair of Linda Davies and Julie Phillips lost to the opposing second pair in straight sets 2-6, 2-6.

In the reverse rubbers Cumpston and Slater won in two very long sets 7-5, 7-5, while Davies and Phillips again lost in straight sets 2-6, 1-6.

In their first home fixture of the season they were up against a team from Bougey Gardens. In the first round rubbers both Cumpston and Slater and Davies and Phillips soon dispatched their opposition in straight sets 6-0, 6-3 and 6-3, 6-2 respectively.

The reverse rubbers followed a similar pattern with both pairs winning in straight sets, Cumpston and Slater 6-1, 6-1 and Davies and Phillips 6-4, 7-5. This earned

the ladies the full eight available points and they now have a two week break before their next fixture away to Wem.

The club has only one Men's team entered in the league this season playing in G5N and they travelled to Lilleshall for their first foray into the competition.

Three of the rubbers went to a deciding third set tie break but disappointingly Oswestry were unable to win any of them.

The first pair of Simon Jackson and Gary Edwards were disappointed to lose out on both their rubbers but the father and son team of Keith and Matthew Grice beat the opposing first pair in straight set 7-6, 6-3.

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Oswestry School
trio get awards
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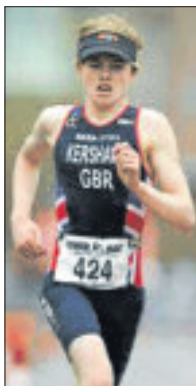


Rugby
BBC rugby man
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OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473

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GB runner Jimmy Kershaw smashed the 5k record

Kershaw a racing cert for success

YOUNG Oswestry Olympian Jimmy Kershaw, who will turn 17 in July, smashed the club's 3k record in the Stretford Trafford Grand Prix - which had stood for 22 years.

Clocking a terrific time of 8mins 59 secs, the young runner swept aside the previous mark of 9:44 set by club legend Gordon Manson way back in 1991.

Kershaw, who trains and competes as a triathlete, showed also that he can compete with senior men when, just a few days later, he took part together with a strong group of Olympian seniors at the Christleton 5k.

He finished 29th in a personal best 15:55, while club-mate Ian Lowe clocked 16:45 in the MV40, a personal best.

In the same event, Olympian Alison Lavender broke her own club 5k record when finishing 62nd in 16:57, third in her class.

County side in Oswestry

COUNTY cricket returns to Oswestry on Sunday when in-form Shropshire take on Wiltshire at Morda Road in the MCCA Knockout Trophy.

Shropshire, under the guidance of new skipper Richard Oliver, go into the game with an unblemished record, having won all three of their games in the competition - against Lincolnshire, Suffolk and Norfolk.

They have already booked their place in the knockout stages of the competition, but victory will ensure that they have a home tie in the quarter-finals.

The game gets under way at 11am. Entry is free.

Saints seven in all star side COBRA double joy

THE New Saints have made up more than half of the Welsh Premier team of the season after six players from the championship winning side were selected, **writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.**

Goalkeeper and captain Paul Harrison was named in the league's "dream team" along with defenders Kai Edwards and Chris Marriott, winger Ryan Fraughan, forward Alex Darlington and the league's top scorer Mike Wilde.

Marriott, who played in every single league game last term, is one of only two players to be picked in the team of the year for a second successive season. The

other player was Mark Jones of Bala Town.

The team selection is made by polling the 12 club managers for their best players in each position and a list of substitutes. The selections are tallied up to select the overall best player in each position.

Among the substitutes was Saints midfielder Aeron Edwards who was unlucky to miss out after being chosen by no fewer than five Welsh Premier League managers. Team Paul Harrison (TNS), Lee Owens (Aberystwyth), Kai Edwards (TNS), Ian Kearney (Aberystwyth), Chris Marriott (TNS), Wayne Riley (Aberystwyth), Mark Jones (Bala Town), Ryan Fraughan, Alex Darlington, Mike Wilde (all

TNS), Andy Parkinson (Prestatyn). **Subs:** Aeron Edwards (TNS), Lee Idzi, Michael Johnson (both Bangor City), Lee Surman, David Brooks (both Port Talbot), Les Davies (Bangor City) and Chris Budrys (Aberystwyth).

■ Saints defender Steve Evans, in his first season as coach of the TNS youth team, saw his charges lift the Central Wales Youth Cup with a 6-1 beating of Llanidloes at Newtown's Latham Park.

The side also reached the quarter-finals of the Welsh Youth Cup before losing to holders and eventual winners Swansea City, and were runners-up to GAP Connah's Quay in the Welsh Premier under-19 academy league.

CELEBRATIONS were in full flow as COBRA signed off a "fantastic season" by lifting the North Wales Rugby Plate for the first time.

They saw off Bala 24-19 in a closely fought final at Colwyn Bay to win their first trophy for a number of seasons - making it a double celebration having also clinched promotion from the Swalec League division two (north) after finishing runners-up.

"To win this trophy for the first time was a fantastic day for the club," said spokesman James Watkin.

"Having lost in a few cup finals,

it was nice to finally win one. It's been the best ever season for the club, having won promotion and now this, and the lads really performed on the day."

Man of the match Llew Williams kicked four penalties and a conversion, while prop Hywel Jones and full-back Rhodri Mayor went over for tries.

WELSHPOOL ended their season in division three (north) on a winning note with a 64-7 romp against struggling Holyhead with centre John Rhys Jones going over for four tries.

■ Final report and pictures - see page 47

Waterloo looking to retain the Spar Cup

HOLDERS Waterloo Rovers bid to keep a grip of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup for a second season when they embark on Saturday's final with Llanidloes Town at Berriew (2.30).

After winning the trophy 12 months ago, Rovers would love to taste more success - in what is a repeat of last season's final.

It promises to be an intriguing affair with Llani, the newly crowned league champions, looking for revenge as they attempt to end a triumphant campaign with a league and cup double.

Rovers boss Dale Roberts, however, believes his side have what it takes to repeat last term's success, adding: "We won the trophy last season and we'll do everything we can to win it again."

The Welshpool club warmed up for the final with a 6-3 home win over Aberystwyth University in their last league game of the campaign, Steve Hole netting a hat-trick.

Despite taking the chance to make a few changes, it was an encouraging display, with the only downside being an ankle injury to Chris Proctor that has made him a doubt for the final.

Last week's win means that Rovers have finished sixth in the table, with 52 points - their best haul of points in the league since 2001.

There is also a big night for high riding LLANFAIR UNITED tomorrow when they take on Machynlleth in the final of the ER Jenkins Cup at Llanidloes (7.30).

Having won the Spar Mid Wales League division two crown, boss Rhys Stephens and his troops start as favourites to add another piece of silverware - but will be wary of a Mach side who have improved dramatically in the second half of the season.

Holiday fun

A HALF term football fun camp for children aged between 5-13 years is being run by The New Saints next week. Children are invited to learn new skills with all abilities welcome.

BARTON IS EXCITED BY VILLA CHALLENGE

FORMER Welshpool and Guilsfield boss Mike Barton is relishing the task of managing newly-formed Oswestry Villa who will launch in the Mercian Regional League premier division next season.

Barton was this week named as manager of Oswestry's newest football club, who will also run a reserve side, while playing their home games in the town at Gatacre.

Having been controversially sacked as boss of Spar Mid Wales League side Berriew a year ago, Barton is looking forward to returning to management.

"I've really wanted to manage a club in Oswestry and I'm delighted to get the chance," he said. "There is a lot of backing for the club in the area, there is already a lot of interest, and we're hoping to attract decent crowds. This is something I'm really looking forward to."

Opportunity

"I've been busy phoning and texting a lot of players. There are already a lot of players who would like to join the club and we could have a couple of big signings. My aim is to get the best players from the Oswestry area."

"Ever since leaving Berriew, I've been desperate to get back into management again and this is a perfect opportunity for me."

Club spokesman Graeme Sutton has been working tirelessly to get the club up and running, while officials say they are delighted to get such a high profile manager. Barton, who is 40 later this year, is confident there is enough interest to field a reserve team, which will be managed by Nathan Bartman.

The advent of Oswestry

by John Bridgwater

Villa will add to the local rivalry, with Oswestry Lions - who play at TNS' Venue - set to rename themselves Oswestry Town.

Also on their doorstep are Oswestry Boys Club, where Barton was helping out with the coaching last season. He has also been involved with Oswestry Lions in the past and has a good knowledge of the local footballing scene.

Barton, an experienced keeper, began his footballing career at Shrewsbury Town,

then went into the Welsh Premier with Newtown.

After a long playing career with 279 Welsh Premier appearances for Newtown, TNS, Rhayader Town and Oswestry Town, Barton had two spells as player manager of Cymru Alliance outfit Guilsfield either side of a spell in charge of Caersws.

He has also managed Welshpool, and more recently was involved with Morda United before managing Berriew last term.

Pool aim high

WELSHPOOL'S cricketers aim to stay in range of the early leaders in the Shropshire League division one when they host Alberbury on Saturday.

It has been an excellent start for the Maesydyre side, who are fifth after last week's six wicket win over Pontesbury.

"It was a good win as we had a slightly weaker side, but we performed well as a team," said vice captain Joe Birch. Pontesbury were dismissed for 121, with Sam Birch taking 6-41 and Joe Birch 2-32, while youngsters Tom Anderson and Joe Monk also impressed, with the latter taking his first wicket.

Joe Birch then led the way with the bat, hitting an unbeaten 50 as Pool reached their target with six overs to spare.

Wicketkeeper Paul Chapman returns behind the stumps on Saturday, while the team is further strengthened by the inclusion of all rounder Matt Mewhinne. WELSHPOOL II picked up their first win in the reserve division three as they saw off Cound II by 70 runs at Maesydyre.

Solid batting saw them post 149-4 in 50 overs, with 43 extras (including 33 wides) the chief contributor; while Robert Anderson finished on 40 not out. Cound were then topped for 79, Steve Monk (5-20) and Anderson (5-31) doing the damage.

Skipper stumped by batting collapse



Oswestry batsman Warrick Finn hits out through mid-wicket during his side's crushing Birmingham League defeat to visiting Fordhouses. Pic: Peter Shah.

SHELLSHOCKED Oswestry bid to bounce back from their batting blues when they make Saturday's trip to free-scoring Attock in the Birmingham Cricket League division two.

The poorest Oswestry batting display for many a season last week saw them crash from 27-0 to 67 all out in suffering a crushing nine wicket loss to visiting Fordhouses.

The game was all over at 2.45pm, leaving the Morda Road side bottom of the league and with plenty to ponder as they bid to revive their fortunes this weekend.

"After being fantastic with the bat the week before at Stratford, we were dreadful last Saturday," admitted captain Mark

Robinson. "It was a serious collapse from 27-0 and 45-2 to 67 all out, and there are no excuses. They bowled well in the conditions, the ball was swinging, but at our level, you shouldn't be bowled out for 67."

"It was a bad day, it sometimes happens, but we've now got to put it behind us."

Oswestry make two changes for Saturday, with young batsman Joe Carrasco making his first appearance of the season, while the inclusion of experienced Nick Williams will help bolster the batting.

While Oswestry slipped to the foot of the table, Attock lifted themselves to second with last week's 66-run win over Stratford.

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